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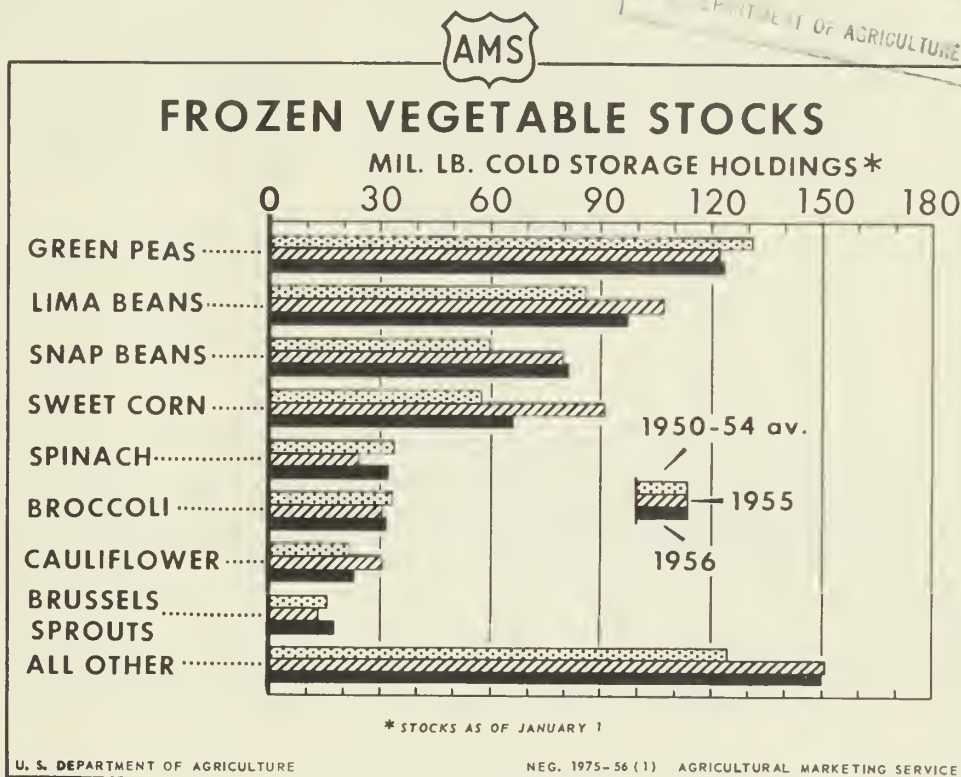
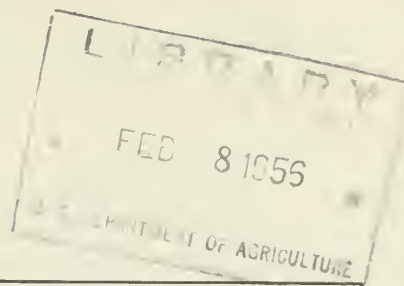


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1956

# VEGETABLE SITUATION

TVS-119



Stocks of frozen vegetables in commercial cold storage on January 1, 1956 were moderately smaller than a year earlier, but 10 percent larger than the 1950-54 average. The smaller holdings, than a year earlier, were due primarily to the considerably smaller stocks of lima beans, Brussels sprouts and sweet corn. Cold storage holdings of asparagus, cauliflower and spinach were

materially larger than a year earlier. Compared with 1950-54 average levels, holdings of broccoli, green peas and spinach were below average, while stocks of all other items were above average. As in most recent years, the major items held, in order of decreasing importance, were green peas, lima beans, snap beans and sweet corn.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

Table 1 .- Vegetables for fresh market and potatoes for marketing in early 1956:  
Commercial acreage, yield per acre, and production of principal  
crops, average 1949-54, annual 1955 indicated 1956

Crop and seasonal group	Acreage			Unit	Yield per acre			Production		
	Average 1949-54	1955	Indi- cated 1956		Average 1949-54	1955	Indi- cated 1956	Average 1949-54	1955	Indi- cated 1956
	Acres	Acres	Acres					1,000 units	1,000 units	1,000 units
<b>VEGETABLES</b>										
<b>Winter</b>										
Artichokes	7,820	8,900	9,500	Box	98	100	100	764	890	950
Beans, lima	720	500	700	Bushel	88	85	65	65	42	46
Beans, snap	28,620	24,600	22,000	Bushel	103	130	115	2,916	3,198	2,530
Beets	5,620	5,000	4,400	Bushel	132	130	140	741	650	616
Broccoli	8,720	6,800	5,350	Crate	102	99	116	891	670	623
Cabbage 1/	47,200	42,300	46,000	Ton	7.38	6.98	7.48	344,000	295,400	340,200
Carrots	41,040	38,700	36,100	Bushel	252	248	247	10,133	9,607	8,922
Cauliflower	3,830	5,810	6,930	Crate	267	267	253	1,021	1,551	1,750
Celery	9,850	9,060	10,560	Crate	694	837	776	6,859	7,586	8,190
Corn, sweet	5,020	6,500	11,000	5-doz.	133	165	125	704	1,072	1,375
				ears						
Cucumbers	1,750	2,500	2,500	Bushel	154	135	125	282	338	312
Egg plant	740	650	750	Bushel	418	420	400	311	273	300
Escarole	4,100	4,600	5,300	Bushel	498	555	550	2,056	2,553	2,915
Kale	2,930	3,000	2,900	Bushel	392	330	360	1,152	990	1,044
Lettuce	60,280	63,500	76,600	Crate	173	189	181	10,353	11,972	13,844
Peas, green	2,420	500	500	Bushel	58	60	60	132	30	30
Peppers, green	3,720	4,400	5,000	Bushel	421	450	400	1,531	1,980	2,000
Shallots	3,050	3,900	3,900	Barrel	27	38	33	83	148	129
Spinach	24,180	19,700	15,050	Bushel	171	169	193	4,075	3,368	2,905
Tomatoes	14,280	16,700	20,000	Bushel	195	305	190	2,797	5,094	3,800
Total	275,890	267,620	285,040	Ton	5.4	5.9	5.9	1489.2	1590.0	1672.2
<b>Spring</b>										
<b>Early spring</b>										
Asparagus 1/	70,720	76,700	2/74,000	Crate	75	84	---	5,320	6,421	---
Cabbage 1/	20,750	19,600	2/21,100	Ton	6.19	5.43	---	127,400	106,500	---
Onions	35,530	37,600	2/51,300	Sack	121	125	---	3,798	4,700	---
<b>Midspring</b>										
Asparagus 1/	10,930	11,670	3/12,370	Crate	109	105	---	1,188	1,230	---
<b>Late spring</b>										
Asparagus 1/	51,500	62,590	2/63,850	Crate	78	69	---	3,978	4,331	---
Onions	17,360	15,800	2/14,700	Sack	263	268	---	4,508	4,230	---
Watermelons	82,780	95,200	2/98,500	Melon	341	400	---	28,301	38,104	---
Total:										
Spring 3/	291,540	321,360	338,020	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
<b>Winter and</b>										
spring 4/	567,430	588,980	623,060	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Annual 4/	2,203,662	2,250,430	---	Ton	4.5	4.7	---	10,023	10,579	---
	Average				Average			Average		
	1945-54				1945-54			1945-54		
<b>POTATOES (Com-</b>										
<b>mmercial early)</b>										
Winter	11,560	13,300	16,300	Bushel	219	291	285	2,532	3,868	4,646
Early spring	24,630	25,050	2/26,400	Bushel	182	250	---	4,330	6,252	---
Late spring	151,080	126,500	117,350	Bushel	276	329	---	41,119	41,605	---
Summer	91,620	71,100	---	Bushel	218	261	---	19,950	18,576	---
Total	278,890	235,950	---	Bushel	244	298	---	67,931	70,301	---

1/ Includes processing. 2/ Prospective. 3/ Includes spring shallots. 4/ Includes asparagus used for processing and cabbage used for sauerkraut.

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, January 27, 1956

## SUMMARY

Incomplete data indicate that the supplies of canned and frozen vegetables available for distribution during the remaining months of the 1955-56 marketing season are a little smaller than those of a year earlier. Supplies of most individual items appear to be about in balance with anticipated market requirements, and with consumer demand expected to remain strong, a good rate of movement is likely to continue for most processed items. Retail prices of processed vegetables into mid-1956 are expected to average a little higher than those of a year earlier. With the prospect of reduced stocks at the end of the marketing season, for the second straight year, processors in 1956 are expected to seek a slightly larger pack than in 1955.



The potato diversion program by January 21, had removed almost 10 million bushels of potatoes from regular marketing channels. Stocks of merchantable potatoes on January 1, at 127 million bushels, were only 4 million bushels larger than a year earlier. However, prospects point to larger crops than last year in both the winter and early spring States. Although prospective supplies are larger, the diversion program is still in operation, and in recent weeks potato prices have strengthened from the low level of last fall.

After early spring, fewer potatoes may be available than last year. Indicated acreage of potatoes for late spring harvest is down 7 percent from that of a year earlier, and in early January grower intentions reports indicated a 3 percent smaller acreage in the 36 late and Intermediate States. This acreage with yields near the average of recent years, would result in a moderately smaller production than last year. Should the intended cut in production materialize, prices received by farmers from late spring forward should average significantly above the extremely low prices of a year earlier. However, experience in recent years suggests that growers would do well to reduce acreage by a larger amount than indicated by intentions reports.

Supplies of sweetpotatoes into mid-1956 are expected to be larger than in the comparable months last year. The 1955 crop is estimated at 38 million bushels, about one-fourth larger than in 1954. Under a sweetpotato purchase program, which began in early November and expired December 31, the Department purchased 171 cars of sweetpotatoes. An appreciable rise in market prices from the early fall lows accounted for the relatively light offerings under the program. However, with the larger supplies available, prices during the next 5-6 months are expected to remain below those of a year earlier.

Supplies of dry edible beans are a little larger than a year earlier, and a considerably lower support price is in effect. The plentiful supplies and low prices of most types of beans may result in a slightly larger domestic consumption than a year earlier, and may also encourage larger exports.

Supplies of dry field peas available in the 1955-56 marketing season are almost one-third smaller than a year earlier as a result of low yields in 1955. However, export demand is likely to continue sharply below that of a year earlier, and prices during the remainder of the marketing season are expected to average moderately lower than the high levels of a year earlier. But prices probably will be above the 1949-53 average and growers are expected to plant at least as large an acreage to peas this year as last.

#### COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES FOR FRESH MARKET

##### Review of 1955 Indicates Increased Demand

Demand for fresh vegetables in 1955 particularly in the first half of the year, appears to have been a little stronger than in 1954. Although aggregate production of 28 commercial truck crops was substantially the same as in 1954, value of these crops was 8 percent higher

than a year earlier. Average prices were higher in 1955 for 15 of the 28 crops. For six of these crops prices averaged higher than in 1954, despite larger production. The six crops were broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce, green peppers, tomatoes and watermelons. On the other hand, prices were more than 1 percent lower for only 7 of the 28 crops.

As is usual in the vegetable industry, yields, production and prices received for vegetables for fresh market sale varied considerably from one quarter of the year to the next.

1955 Winter Season Production  
Up Slightly From Year Earlier,  
Prices Up Substantially

During the first quarter, or winter season of 1955, total production of commercial fresh vegetables was about 2 percent larger than in 1954 and 8 percent above the 1949-53 average. Major contributors to the increased tonnage in 1955 over a year earlier, in order of decreasing importance were tomatoes, lettuce, carrots, snap beans and cauliflower. The larger tonnages of lettuce, snap beans, and cauliflower were due to increased acreage and higher yields; the increased tonnages of tomatoes was due to much higher yields, while the larger production of carrots was due to increased acreage.

Despite heavier production than a year earlier prices of many of the winter crops were well above those of 1954, and aggregate value was up about one-fifth over the preceding year and more than one-fifth above the 1949-53 average.

Spring Production Equal to  
That of A Year Earlier,  
Prices Materially Higher

Acreage planted to fresh vegetables and melons for 1955 spring harvest was down 7 percent from that of a year earlier. However, higher yields in 1955 offset the reduction in acreage so that aggregate production was substantially the same as in 1954, but about 9 percent larger than the 1949-53 average. Spring production was heaviest compared to a year earlier for broccoli, cauliflower, sweet corn, green peppers and shallots. Production was lightest relative to 1954 for beets, cabbage, carrots and cucumbers.

Demand was strong in the spring, and prices received by farmers averaged about 10 percent higher than in the spring of 1954. Aggregate value of production of the 22 spring vegetables reported was one-tenth greater than a year earlier and 11 percent above the 1949-53 average.

Summer Tonnage And  
Value Up Fractionally

Both acreage and production of 20 vegetables for summer harvest were up one percent from 1954. Big increases in tonnage of cabbage, sweet corn, lettuce, and watermelons were almost offset by large decreases in carrots, celery, tomatoes, onions and cantaloups.



Average prices for the summer period were at about the same level as a year earlier and aggregate value of production was up only one percent from that of 1954, and was slightly below the 1949-53 average.

#### 1955 Fall Production

##### Down, Value Up

Fall production of 16 commercial vegetables for fresh market sale was 4 percent smaller in 1955 than in 1954 and about 9 percent below the 1949-53 average. Among the more important fall vegetables, decreases of 10 percent or more in production, from a year earlier, occurred in Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, sweet corn, and green peppers. From the standpoint of tonnage, by far the largest declines occurred in cabbage and carrots. Increases in production of 10 percent or more were registered by broccoli, cauliflower, cucumbers and tomatoes. On the basis of tonnage, the largest increases occurred in tomatoes and lettuce.

For the smaller supply of fall vegetables, prices averaged well above the 1954 level and above the 1949-53 average. Aggregate value of vegetable crops for fall harvest was 7 percent greater than in 1954 and about 10 percent above the 1949-53 average.

#### Cold Weather Changes

##### Supply Price Prospects

##### For Winter Vegetables

As a result of severe cold damage to winter crops in Florida, caused by low temperatures in January, prospective supplies of several important winter season vegetables has been cut sharply. According to early January estimates of the Crop Reporting Board, the production of 20 commercial vegetables being grown for winter harvest was expected to be up about 5 percent from last winter and more than 10 percent above the 1949-53 average.

Since the January 10 crop report was issued, however, there has been considerably more freeze damage to crops in Florida, and production prospects have been lowered. Damage ranged from slight for hardy crops to very severe for tender crops more susceptible to low temperatures. In general the quality of vegetables has been lowered by the freezing temperatures, but with shorter supplies, much of the poorer-quality produce is likely to move to market.

Among the more important winter-season vegetables, production prospects have been cut back sharply for snap beans, sweet corn, green peppers and tomatoes. Eggplant and escarole were also hard hit by the cold. On the other hand, indications are that tonnage of lettuce, celery and cabbage from winter producing States (Florida, Texas, Arizona, and California) will be materially larger this winter than last. Late January indications are that aggregate production of vegetables will be about as large this winter as last.

We generally have a sizable import trade from Cuba and Mexico in tomatoes, cucumbers and eggplant--some of the items hardest hit by the freeze. With more favorable price relationships expected to exist, imports of these winter-season vegetables are likely to be well above the very light volume of last winter. The prospective larger imports and the marketing of some poorer-quality vegetables will tend to temper the shortage resulting from the expected smaller production.

Demand for winter vegetables is expected to continue strong, and average prices received by farmers for the 1956 total winter-season production are not expected to differ significantly from those of the 1955 season. However, prices of individual items will differ relative to those of last winter. Prices of snap beans, sweet corn, cucumbers, escarole, green peppers and tomatoes are expected to be higher than those of a year earlier, while prices of lettuce, celery and cabbage are expected to average lower than last winter. The rapid growth in production of winter vegetables in recent years and the increased availability of frozen items has been accompanied by a trend toward lower prices of winter vegetables grown for fresh market sale. For this reason prices for the total 1956 winter-season crop may be moderately below the 1949-53 average.

January 1 Stocks of Cabbage  
and Onions Smaller Than A  
Year Earlier

The 1955 crop of early Danish cabbage, the main type stored, was about 20 percent smaller than a year earlier and 16 percent below the 1949-53 average. Also production of domestic cabbage was small in the fall and prices were relatively high. This facilitated a brisk rate of marketing of Danish cabbage to both fresh market and kraut outlets. As a result of the smaller crop and heavy fall marketings, stocks are very light. Most of the holdings are in New York State, where on January 1, stocks of Danish cabbage amounted to 9,000 tons. This was only about one-fourth as large as stocks a year earlier and less than one-third the 1944-53 average. The smaller supplies of Danish cabbage available this winter than last is expected to continue to hold prices of this item above those of a year earlier. However the heavier production of winter-season cabbage than a year earlier, is likely to result in substantially lower average prices for new crop cabbage.

On January 1 this year stocks of onions amounted to 8.2 million 50-pound sacks, 17 percent less than a year earlier and 14 percent below the 1949-53 average. Holdings at the beginning of this year were lighter than in 1955 in all sections of the country. Stocks were down 18 percent in the eastern States, 13 percent in the central States and 20 percent in the western States. Onion prices in recent months have been well above those of a year earlier. And with the light stocks of dry onions available for distribution, prices are expected to continue above those of a year earlier until onions from the spring harvest become available.



USDA Guides For Spring,  
Summer and Fall Vegetables

Spring The Department's guide for 1956 spring vegetables recommends an acreage 2 percent smaller than in 1955. Decreased acreages were suggested for cabbage, carrots, lettuce, onions, peppers, shallots, sweet corn, and tomatoes. Snap beans, cucumbers and green peas were the only vegetables for which increased acreages were suggested. No change in acreages were recommended for lima beans, beets, broccoli, cauliflower, celery, eggplant, spinach, cantaloups and watermelons. If yields should average near those of recent years, aggregate tonnage on the acreage suggested would be about 5 percent smaller than in the spring of 1955.

Summer For 16 summer vegetables, excluding melons, the Department of Agriculture has suggested an acreage about 2 percent smaller than in 1955 and 5 percent below the 1949-53 average.

In most cases the change in acreage suggested for individual vegetables was small to moderate. For the total summer crop, reductions of 5 percent or more from a year earlier were recommended for lima beans, beets, carrots, cucumbers, onions and green peppers. Only for lettuce was an increase of as much as 5 percent in acreage suggested. Yields near those of recent years, on the acreage recommended, would result in a 1956 production just slightly larger than a year earlier but a little smaller than the 1949-53 average.

For summer melons, the guide recommends a 4 percent cut in acreage of cantaloups and a 10 percent cut in watermelons. If yields should average near those of recent years, production of cantaloups on the acreage suggested, would be almost 4 percent larger than in 1955 and slightly above the 1949-53 average; production of watermelons would be 13 percent smaller than a year earlier but about 9 percent larger than the 1949-53 average.

Fall The guide for 1956 fall vegetables recommends an acreage only one percent smaller than in 1955. Only for cucumbers was it suggested that total acreage--early plus late--be reduced by more than 5 percent from 1955. Increases of 5 percent or more in acreage were recommended for cabbage, carrots, and green peppers. Total estimated fall production from the suggested acreage would be slightly larger than in 1955 and about the same as the 1949-53 average.

Prospects For  
Leading Crops

Cabbage

Indications are that cabbage production this winter will be materially larger than a year ago. Acreage is reported to be up about 9 percent from that of 1955 and 10 percent larger than suggested in the guide. Despite some damage to the Florida crop by cold weather in January, the tonnage of winter cabbage is likely to be materially larger than a year earlier. The prospective tonnage is expected to result in prices for new crop cabbage lower than last winter and lower than the 1949-53

average. In 1955 the demand and price for winter cabbage held up better than usual because of the delayed harvest of early spring cabbage caused by the March freeze.

Early reports indicate at least a moderately larger acreage of cabbage for early spring harvest than last year. Also yields may be above those of 1955 when the crop suffered from dry weather and a late March freeze in the Southeastern States. If the expected increase in production is realized, prices for the early spring crop are expected to average below the high prices of a year earlier and below the 1949-53 average. There is as yet no indication as to the probable acreage of cabbage for late spring harvest. The 1955 acreage and production was almost one-fifth below the 1949-53 average, and the season average price was about 10 percent above average. Last fall the Department had suggested a 10 percent increase in acreage of cabbage for 1956 late spring harvest. But inasmuch as indications point to a substantially larger early spring crop than suggested, growers of late spring cabbage might do well to temper any planned expansion.

The guide suggests no change in acreage of summer cabbage this year compared with last. Prices for 1955 summer cabbage were above the relatively low prices of 1954. But despite the fact that tonnage in 1955 was slightly less than average, prices were moderately below those of 1949-53. Prices were held down in the early part of the season when marketings from the delayed late spring harvest overlapped the earlier than usual shipments of summer cabbage from the northeastern States. Also processors' purchases were relatively light because of low sauerkraut prices.

The early fall crop is the most important cabbage crop accounting, on the average, for about one-half total annual production. Much of the crop is put into storage and sold throughout the fall and winter. There has been a long-time downward trend in both acreage and production of cabbage for early fall harvest. Growers cut acreage considerably last fall, yields were below normal and production was well below that which could have been moved at near average prices. Prices were much above average for both early and late fall cabbage. Low production and a brisk movement of the 1955 fall crop resulted in very low stocks on January 1, 1956. Storage holdings of Danish cabbage at the beginning of the year amounted to only 9,000 tons, only one-fourth as large as a year ago and less than one-third the 1944-53 average. Prices for the smaller supply of Danish are expected to continue at a relatively high level.

The Department's acreage guide for 1956 suggests a 10 percent larger acreage of cabbage for early fall harvest than in 1955. The suggested acreage with yields near the average of recent years would result in a tonnage about one-sixth larger than a year earlier, but more than 10 percent smaller than the 1949-53 average.

### Carrots

Prospects are for a crop of carrots about 7 percent smaller this winter than last, and 14 percent less than the 1949-53 average. For the first half of December average prices received by farmers for carrots was \$2.85 per bushel, 85 cents more than a year earlier. Price comparisons with the recent 5 year period are not meaningful because of the expanding use of film packaging of carrots. The average prices in earlier years



were heavily weighted by quotations on bunched carrots. Accompanying the growth of film packaging in the past few years, production has declined in Arizona and California and increased in Texas, which has a lower freight cost to Eastern markets.

Supplies of carrots are expected to continue lighter this winter than last, and prices are likely to remain well above the low levels of a year earlier, and above average for carrots quoted in comparable packages.

Growers of carrots for spring harvest, received relatively high prices for the small 1954 crop, and in 1955 expanded their acreage by more than 50 percent. Despite the fact that yields were below average, the large production depressed prices and almost 30 percent of the crop was not harvested. The Department's guide for 1956 suggests a 35 percent smaller acreage than in 1955, with the objective of a 26 percent cut in production.

For the combined early and late summer crops, the guide recommends a 6 percent reduction in acreage, which with average growing conditions, would result in a slightly smaller production of carrots than in 1955. For both the early fall and late fall producing States, acreage increases of 5 percent are suggested.

### Celery

In the post-World War II period, yields of celery have increased sharply, and despite a decline in acreage, there has been an upward trend in annual production. The rapid increase in yields has been due in part to increased plantings of pascal-type celery and to closer spacing of celery plants.

Demand for celery in 1955 continued strong. Although production was only slightly less than that of 1954 and moderately above the 1949-53 average, prices for the year averaged well above those of a year earlier and moderately above average. There were few serious overlaps in shipments of celery from the various areas which tended to sustain prices in most areas.

Early reports indicate that the acreage of celery for winter harvest in California, Florida and Arizona is up about 17 percent from a year earlier. The indicated acreage and yield would result in an estimated production of 8.2 million crates, a new record, 8 percent more than last year and almost one-fifth larger than the 1949-53 average. The heavier supplies are already being felt in the market. On December 15, price to growers averaged \$1.95 per crate, 20 cents lower than in mid-December 1954 and well below average. Since harvest of fall celery in Central California was delayed by December rains, shipments from the wind-up of that crop are expected to be heavier than usual in January. The crop in Florida is reported to be in generally good condition. The January cold slowed plant growth and cut yields on mature acreage, but no material reduction in production is expected. With the larger supplies in prospect, prices through the winter are expected to continue below those of a year earlier.

The 1956 acreage guide recommends the same acreage of celery for spring harvest as in 1955, a slight increase in acreage for summer harvest, and a slight decrease in acreage for fall harvest.



Lettuce

During and since World War II there has been a rapid expansion in the production of lettuce for winter-season harvest. Most of the expansion has been due to larger acreages in California which, in recent years, has produced about 60 percent of the total winter supply. Production of the winter crop set a record in 1955 and, despite some cold damage to the Florida crop, production this winter may establish a new record. Acreage is reported to be about one-fifth larger than a year earlier and about one-fourth above the 1949-53 average. The Department had recommended that growers plant the same acreage in 1956 as in 1955.

Anticipated yields on the reported acreage would result in a production about 16 percent larger than last winter and one-third larger than average. Should this level of production be realized, prices for the winter crop are expected to average materially lower than those of a year earlier. However, due to slow development of the crop, shipments of lettuce from California were light during the first half of December, and prices averaged well above those of a year earlier and the highest for the period since 1951. Plantings in Texas were delayed because of heavy fall rains and the winter crop in this area has furnished a lighter early-season volume than last year. Loss of some lettuce acreage in Florida, as a result of the January freeze is not expected to have much effect on the overall supply situation.

In 1955 the early spring harvest was delayed by adverse weather conditions which allowed the Arizona crop to move at relatively high prices. But then the delayed harvest of early spring lettuce from California overlapped the early harvest in the late spring States; this resulted in heavy shipments and extremely low prices in the last half of May. An important factor affecting prices in the late spring States is competition with supplies from Central California. In 1955 this competition was particularly heavy into June and was largely responsible for the low season average price relative to the previous year and the 1949-53 average. The Department guide suggests a 5 percent cut in the acreage planted for 1956 early spring harvest, and an acreage for late spring harvest equal to that of 1955. Particularly in view of the large winter crop in prospect, and the probability of delayed harvests in some areas, it seems especially advisable that growers in the early spring states plant a smaller acreage than last year if they are to avoid another season of depressed prices.

Acreage for summer harvest in 1955 was down 9 percent from that of a year earlier and slightly below the 1949-53 average. But yields were very high in California, which in recent years has accounted for about three-quarters of the total crop, and production was the largest of record. Demand was strong and there was little bunching of marketings or overlap with shipments from other areas. Prices in all states were well above the low levels of 1954. The Department has suggested a 5 percent larger acreage in 1956 with a production objective equal to the 1955 output.

A high yield of lettuce for early fall harvest resulted in the 1955 crop being the second largest ever produced, exceeded only in 1952. Despite the large supplies, prices held up well, averaging only 11 cents

lower than in 1954 and 18 cents less than the 1949-53 average. However, the proportion of dry pack lettuce was high in 1955 and the actual net to the grower compared favorably with the 1949-53 average. The acreage guide suggests the same acreage for early fall harvest in 1956 as was harvested in 1955. The late fall crop produced in the Salt River Valley of Arizona reached a record high in 1955 despite a cut in yields caused by unseasonably cold weather in November. With normal weather it appears certain that supplies would have been burdensome. The Department has suggested a reduction of 10 percent in acreage planted to lettuce for late fall harvest.

### Onions

The late summer crop is by far the largest of the seasonal onion crops accounting, on the average, for about three-fourths of total annual production. A substantial part of this crop goes into storage each year to provide market supplies through the fall and winter. The 1955 crop for late summer harvest at 29.7 million sacks was almost 4 million sacks less than in 1954 and about 3 million sacks below the 1949-53 average. As a result of the smaller crop and a good fall movement, onion stocks on January 1 were only 8.2 million 50-pound sacks compared with 9.8 million sacks a year earlier, and the 1949-53 average of 9.5 million sacks. Prices received by growers for onions during the first half of December averaged \$1.25 per 50-pound sack, 20 cents higher than those of a year earlier, but 24 cents below the 1949-53 average. With lighter stocks on hand, prices are expected to continue above last year's levels until onions from the spring crop become available.

Growers of onions for early spring harvest in Texas planted 14 percent fewer acres than earlier intentions reports indicated. However, the 51,300 acres is still more than one-third larger than in 1955, almost 50 percent larger than the 1949-53 average, and one-third larger than that suggested in the Department's acreage guide. The big increase in plantings occurred in the Coastal Bend District and in irrigated sections of the Raymondville and Lower Valley Districts. Onions in all areas are reported to have made good growth and barring adverse weather should begin moving to market in volume by mid-March.

Although the 1956 early spring crop will face little competition from old crop onions, the anticipated level of production is likely to result in another season of below-average prices. Intentions reports indicate that growers plan to plant a 7 percent smaller acreage to onions for late spring harvest than in 1955. This represents a slightly larger reduction than recommended in the acreage guide, but supplies of onions this spring should be plentiful because of the prospective large crop for early spring harvest.

Partly because of the heavy crop and partly because of some overlap with both the late spring and late summer harvest, prices of onions for early summer harvest in 1955 were well below the previous year, and the 1949-53 average. The Department has recommended an acreage for 1956 early summer harvest 10 percent smaller than was harvested in 1955. The 1955 late summer crop appeared to be about in balance with market requirements and since early fall, prices have been at moderate levels. The acreage guide for 1956 suggests a 5 percent reduction compared with 1955. On the acreage suggested, yields near the average of recent years would result in a slightly larger production than last year.



Tomatoes

In the past few years there has been a very pronounced uptrend in the production of winter-season tomatoes in South Florida. The rapid increase in production has been the result of expanding acreage and increasing yield.

Although acreage of tomatoes planted for 1956 winter-season harvest was up sharply from that of last winter, about 90 percent of the acreage is located in Dade County where freeze damage was severe. The Crop Reporting Board in a preliminary report of apparent damage, released on January 20, noted that production of tomatoes during the winter period might be only 25 to 50 percent of the good production prospects that prevailed prior to the January cold.

Prices for the 1955 winter-season crop averaged well above the 1954 level, a few cents above the 1949-53 average, and considerably above prices that might normally be expected for such a large crop. Main factors contributing to the relatively favorable price level were an orderly movement to market with no periods of very heavy shipments, and relatively light imports of tomatoes from Cuba and Mexico.

During the first half of December, shipments of tomatoes were materially heavier than those of a year earlier and prices averaged considerably lower. In more recent weeks, however, movement has lightened compared with a year earlier and upon completion of salvaging operations from damaged fields, shipments are likely to remain well below the levels of last winter. For the week ended January 25, imports of tomatoes from Cuba and Mexico were more than twice as heavy as a year earlier. Although imports are expected to continue larger this winter than last, the sharp cut in domestic production will mean a considerably smaller supply of tomatoes than a year earlier. During at least the next two months, prices paid to growers are expected to average substantially higher than a year earlier or the 1949-53 average.

Reports are not yet available as to the probable or intended acreage of tomatoes for harvest in the early spring States or in later areas. Due to extremely high yields in Florida, 1955 production of early-spring tomatoes were the highest of record. The Department has recommended an acreage for early spring harvest 5 percent less than in 1955. If yields should be near the average of recent years, production on the suggested acreage would be about 13 percent smaller than a year earlier, but 8 percent above the 1949-53 average. The acreage guide for late spring tomatoes suggests for 1956 the same acreage and production as in 1955.

For early summer tomatoes the guide suggests an acreage for 1956 harvest 10 percent less than in 1955 but slightly above the 1949-53 average. Yields near those of recent years would produce, on the suggested acreage, 5 percent less tonnage than in 1955, but 8 percent more than in the 1949-53 period. For late summer harvest the Department has recommended a 5 percent increase in acreage compared with a year earlier with the objective of a slightly smaller tonnage. For fall-season tomatoes the Department guide suggests a little smaller acreage than a year earlier for both the early fall and late fall crops.

Cantaloups

In the 1955 season, growers produced fewer cantaloups in spring and early summer than in the previous year and prices were above those of a year earlier. Spring harvest was delayed due to unusually cold weather in Florida and Texas last March and to more protracted cold weather in California and Arizona. Further, there was less than the usual overlap of marketings from the important producing areas. However, most of the crop moved to market before the early summer harvest which was later and smaller than usual. This combination of circumstances permitted a crop of more than average size to move at prices about one-third higher than the 1949-53 average. Both the mid-summer and late summer crops were larger than a year earlier and above the 1949-53 average. Prices received by farmers for these crops were lower than those of the previous year and below average. Although the small production in the early summer States aided the market for the mid-summer crop, prices were under pressure and there was considerable economic abandonment in North Carolina.

The Department guide for 1956 recommends that the acreages of cantaloups for spring and early summer harvest be equal to those of 1955. The suggested acreage, with yields near the average of recent years, would result in a slightly larger production of spring-season melons than a year earlier; production of cantaloups for early summer harvest would be much larger than the short 1955 crop. The guide suggests a 5 percent cut in acreages of both mid-summer and late summer producing states.

Watermelons

Prices for 1955 late spring melons averaged well above those of 1954 and moderately above the 1949-53 average. However, not all areas enjoyed favorable marketing conditions and good prices. The West Florida crop, much of which had to be replanted after the late March freeze, developed slowly and shipments from this crop overlapped heavy shipments from the large early summer crop, and resulted in relatively low prices and considerable economic abandonment.

Intentions reports indicate about 98,500 acres of watermelons in Florida and California for 1956 late spring harvest. This acreage is 3 percent more than was harvested in 1955 and about 25 percent larger than the 1949-53 average. A substantial increase is planned in the southern part of Florida. The January freeze hit some fields in which plants were above ground and some re-planting may be necessary.

No indications are available as to the probable acreage of watermelons for summer harvest. In 1955, both early summer and late summer production was heavy and prices averaged lower than those of a year earlier and substantially below the 1949-53 average. The Department has recommended a 10 percent smaller acreage than a year earlier in both the early summer and late summer areas. Should yields average near those of recent years, early summer production would be down 14 percent from the 1955 level and late summer production would be down 8 percent, but each of these seasonal crops would be larger than the 1949-53 average.



## VEGETABLES FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING

1955 Acreage Down, Production And  
Value Up From A Year Earlier

Harvested acreage of 11 crops for commercial processing in 1955 was about 2 percent smaller than a year earlier, 7 percent below the 1944-53 average, but slightly larger than suggested in the 1955 acreage guide. However, 1955 yields were higher and aggregate tonnage was about 4 percent above that of a year earlier and the 1949-53 average. In addition to a much larger tonnage of tomatoes produced for processing in 1955, tonnages of asparagus, green peas, pimentos and spinach were up substantially from levels of a year earlier and tonnage of cucumbers for pickles was up moderately. Production of lima beans, snap beans, cabbage for kraut and sweet corn was materially smaller and production of beets for canning was slightly smaller than a year earlier.

Total value of the 1955 crop of vegetables for processing was about 4 percent greater than that of the previous year and 7 percent above the 1944-53 average. Most of the processing acreage is contracted for in advance, so that acreage and price frequently move in the same direction. In 1955 prices were materially higher than a year earlier for only two crops--asparagus and cabbage for kraut. Prices were as much as 5 percent lower for snap beans, cucumbers for pickles and sweet corn.

Prospects For 1956

The movement and market tone of processed vegetables and the changes in stocks of canned and frozen items in the hands of canners and distributors during the next two or three months will exert some influence on processor operations in 1956. However, data available indicate that the slightly lighter supplies available for the 1955-56 marketing season, as a result of smaller carryover stocks, have been moving at a good rate.

With supplies of individual items generally about in balance with anticipated market requirements, and with overall demand for food expected to continue strong, a good rate of movement at steady to firm prices probably will prevail for most processed items. With present prospects pointing to the second straight year of a reduction in stocks at the end of the marketing season, processors probably will seek a little larger tonnage of vegetables for processing in 1956 than in 1955.

Due primarily to a much smaller 1955 pack, supplies of sauerkraut appear to be much smaller than a year earlier and substantially below average. Retail prices are likely to continue relatively high for this item, and processors probably will put up a larger pack in 1956. The Department acreage guide suggests a 10 percent increase in acreage of cabbage for kraut. Similarly the apparent supply demand situation for corn indicates that a larger volume of corn could be profitably handled in the 1956-57 marketing season. Accordingly the Department has suggested a 5 percent increase in acreage with probably an 8 percent larger production. A larger production of beets for canning may be desirable in 1956,



but assuming 1950-54 average yields, no increase in acreage would be required. Past experience and present movement indicates room for a moderate increase in the 1956 pack of green peas. The increased production of peas, with 1951-55 average yield, would require the 5 percent expansion in acreage recommended in the 1956 acreage-marketing guide. The Department suggests an increased acreage of cucumbers for pickles. Near average yield on such an acreage would result in an output just under that of 1955.

On the other hand reduced acreages are likely for at least a couple of vegetables. In 1955 acreage and production of snap beans were cut back substantially from the 1954 record levels. However, supplies are still large and a further reduction in 1956 seems likely. The guide suggests a 10 percent cut in acreage of snap beans, with a probable 12 percent cut in production. The 1955 pack of spinach was very large and some reduction seems probable in the 1956 pack. The Department has recommended a 5 percent cut in acreage compared with a year earlier. Should yields be near those of recent years, tonnage produced on the suggested acreage would be about 16 percent smaller than in 1955. The guide suggests a moderate reduction in 1956 acreage of tomatoes, but yields near the average of recent years would result in a slight increase in production.

#### CANNED VEGETABLES

##### 1955 Pack Probably Up Slightly From 1954

Incomplete data indicate that the total pack of canned vegetables in 1955 probably was a little larger than in 1954. Among major items on which data are available, the pack of green peas and tomatoes was substantially larger than in 1954. The pack of tomato juice was about the same as a year earlier, while the pack of snap beans and sweet corn was down substantially. Among other items, the pack of asparagus, pumpkin and squash and catsup and chili sauce were larger than a year earlier while the pack of lima beans was smaller. Preliminary figures on the important California pack indicate that the pack of spinach in 1955 will be much larger than in 1954.

##### Remaining Supplies Probably A Little Smaller Than A Year Earlier

Although the 1955 pack probably was a little larger than that of the previous year, the increase in pack was hardly sufficient to offset the smaller carryover stocks. Also, during the first part of the 1955-56 marketing season, rate of movement of most canned items appears to have been as high as or higher than a year earlier. The apparent rate of movement indicates a strong consumer demand, and for most items fairly well balanced supplies. During the remainder of the marketing season, continued strong demand and steady to firm retail prices are expected for most canned vegetables.

Reports of January 1 stocks of the principal canned vegetables in the hands of canners and wholesale distributors are not yet available. Judging from stocks data for earlier periods, stocks of sweet corn and tomato juice are likely to be down substantially from a year earlier, while holdings of lima beans, snap beans and beets may be down moderately.

#### FROZEN VEGETABLES

##### Pack In 1955 Probably Larger Than In 1954

Although pack figures for 1955 are not yet available for most commercially frozen vegetables, the total pack probably will show some increase over 1954. The 1955 frozen pack of green peas at 223 million pounds was 16 million pounds or 7 percent larger than in 1954, and second only to the 227 million pounds frozen in 1953. Preliminary estimates indicate that the frozen asparagus pack was a little smaller than in 1954. The pack of cut corn at 66 million pounds was well below the heavy peak of 1953 and 1954. However, 1955 packs of spinach and a number of other items probably were larger than those of a year earlier.

##### Cold Storage Holdings on January 1, Smaller Than A Year Earlier

Stocks of frozen vegetables on January 1, 1956 at 622 million pounds were almost 28 million pounds less than a year earlier, but 59 million pounds more than the 1950-54 average. Frozen holdings of most items were as large or larger than a year earlier, but holdings of lima beans, sweet corn and Brussels sprouts were much smaller than those of a year earlier. Among the other more important items, holdings of spinach were much larger than a year earlier, and holdings of snap beans, broccoli, and green peas were slightly heavier.

##### Prospects For Next Few Months

Consumer demand for frozen vegetables during the next few months is expected to continue strong and retail prices for most items are likely to remain near present levels. Overall stocks of frozen vegetables probably will be smaller at the end of this marketing season than at the beginning. Because of the lighter stocks and the trend toward increasing use of frozen items, processors are expected to seek a larger pack of frozen vegetables in 1956.

#### POTATOES

##### Large 1955 Crop Brings Lower Prices Than 1954 Crop

The 1955 potato crop is estimated at 382 million bushels, 26 million bushels larger than in 1954 and considerably in excess of normal trade requirements. About 4 million bushels of the increased production occurred in the summer commercial States and 13 million bushels in the 29 late States.



Demand for summer and late crop potatoes is quite inelastic. Even though consumer incomes have been at record levels the large supplies began to weigh heavily on the market. Prices broke sharply in June and continued to decline into early fall. Prices have recovered somewhat since October but are still at relatively low levels. In mid-December the U. S. average price received by farmers was 82 cents per bushel, 23 cents less than in 1954 and more than 40 cents below the 1949-53 average. Prices by areas have tended to reflect the relative supply positions with prices least depressed in the group of Central States where 1955 production was down from that of a year earlier.

#### USDA Potato Diversion Program

As the larger supplies began to weigh on market prices last summer, grower representatives requested that the Department take steps to assist the industry in disposing of supplies in excess of market requirements. In mid-September 1955, the Department put into effect a program under which growers receive supplementary payments for certain specified grades and sizes of potatoes diverted into starch, feed or flour.

To date Colorado, Idaho, Maine, Oregon, Utah, Washington and parts of California and Pennsylvania have been approved for inclusion in the program. Through January 21, about 8.7 million bushels of potatoes had been diverted for starch in Colorado, Idaho, Maine and Washington. Of this total, 6.7 million bushels were eligible for payment under the diversion program. An additional 1 million bushels had been diverted for livestock feed, mostly in Colorado, Idaho, Oregon and Pennsylvania.

#### Larger Potato Stocks January 1

The potato diversion program and size and quality restrictions on the marketing of table-stock potatoes from many of the important producing areas have helped to ease the pressure in potato markets. January 1 stocks of merchantable potatoes, held by growers and dealers in or near areas where produced, were estimated at 127 million bushels. This was 4 million bushels more than was held a year earlier. Most of the increase in stocks compared with a year earlier was accounted for by the 19 percent larger holdings in the 9 Eastern late States. Holdings in the 11 Western States were only 2 percent heavier than a year earlier. In the 9 Central States where late crop production was down substantially, stocks were 25 percent smaller than on January 1, 1955.

#### Prospective 1956 Winter and Early Spring Crops Larger than In 1955, Prices Expected to Average Lower

The Florida 1956 winter-season crop of potatoes is estimated to be up about one-fifth from that of 1955 and about 45 percent above the 1951-55 average. This crop is relatively small amounting, in 1955, to

less than 10 percent of the early commercial crop. Acreage for early spring harvest is reported to be 5 percent larger than in 1955 and 7 percent above average. Barring unfavorable weather, production of early spring potatoes is likely to be somewhat larger than in 1955. The early spring crop in 1955 made up about 15 percent of the total early commercial crop.

With the slightly larger stocks of potatoes on hand January 1, and a larger acreage planted for early harvest, supplies of potatoes in the January-May period are likely to be larger than those of a year earlier. Although prospective supplies into the spring are a little larger than a year ago, the diversion program is already in operation in 8 States--it was not started until March 1, last year and then only in Maine--and in recent weeks potato prices have strengthened somewhat.

The most important crop in early commercial production is the late spring crop, which in 1955 accounted for about three-quarters of the total. When harvest gets under way in the late spring States, new crop potatoes begin to provide a substantial part of the market supply. Last year the late spring crop amounted to 41.6 million bushels. Although production estimates for the 1956 late spring crop are not available, indicated acreage is 7 percent smaller than the large acreage of last year. If yields should average near those of recent years, production on the indicated acreage would be substantially smaller than in 1955.

#### Foreign Trade

United States foreign trade in potatoes is relatively small. In the 1954-55 season, exports amounted to only about 2 percent of our production and imports were only one-half of 1 percent of production. Canada is the chief customer for our exports, and practically all of our imports originate in that country. Although United States imports of potatoes during the next few months are likely to be larger than the relatively small volume of a year earlier, they will have little effect on overall supplies. Exports during the 1955-56 season may be down moderately from the relatively high level of a year earlier.

#### Production Prospects In Summer and Fall

Acreage Guide - The acreage guide recently released by the Department of Agriculture suggests that farmers in the Summer Commercial States plant 9 percent fewer acres to potatoes than was planted in 1955. The guide also recommends that an 8 percent smaller acreage be planted in the 29 late States. In no State, either in the summer or late crop group, was any increase in acreage recommended. Of the 10 Summer States smaller acreages were suggested for Delaware, Kansas, Texas and Virginia.

In the 29 late States, the largest percentage reduction in acreage was suggested for the Western group of States. In this group the guide recommends a 13 percent cut in acreage, with smaller acreage recommended



for all States except Nebraska and New Mexico, Reductions of more than 10 percent were suggested for California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon and Washington. Among the groups of late States the next largest cut in acreage, a cut of 8 percent, was recommended for the 9 Eastern States. A reduction of 17 percent was suggested for Maine, with moderate reductions for Rhode Island and New York (Long Island), and slight reductions for Connecticut and Massachusetts. The guide recommended only a 2 percent reduction in acreage in the Central group of States, with all of the suggested reduction in Minnesota.

If yields by States should be near the average of recent years, the suggested acreages would result in a summer commercial crop about one-fifth smaller than a year earlier, and production in the 29 late States almost one-tenth smaller.

Growers Intentions - Reports of growers' planting intention in early January indicate the probability of a 3 percent smaller acreage of potatoes in the 36 late and Intermediate States. The reports indicate an acreage reduction of 5 percent for the 9 Eastern late States, 6 percent for the 9 Central late States and about the same acreage in the Western late States and the Intermediate States.

#### Price Prospects Beyond Spring

The demand for summer and late-crop potatoes is quite inelastic at the farm level. Therefore, the prices which growers receive for these crops will be largely determined by the level of production. If growers stick close to their January 1 planting intentions and if yields are not unusually high, prices received by farmers may be expected to average at least moderately above the low levels of a year earlier. Experience in recent years suggests that farmers would do well to reduce acreage more than the indicated 3 per cent.

### SWEETPOTATOES

#### Supply Larger Than A Year Earlier

Heavier supplies of sweetpotatoes than a year earlier are in prospect during the remainder of 1955-56 marketing season. The 1955 crop of 38 million bushels was one-fourth larger than in 1954 and the largest crop since 1950. The increased production was due primarily to record yields as the acreage for harvest was up less than 4 percent, with almost three-fourths of the total increase in Louisiana. Production was up in every reporting State except New Jersey.

#### Prices for 1955 Crop Lower Than for 1954

The larger supplies of sweetpotatoes available from the 1955 crop has resulted in prices well below those of a year earlier. Greatest pressure on markets occurred during early fall when prices slumped to the lowest



levels in more than a decade. Prices have moved up from the early fall lows and some further seasonal price rise is anticipated. But with the larger supplies, prices of sweetpotatoes during the next 5-6 months are expected to average well below those of a year earlier. On December 15, the United States average price received by farmers was \$2.03 per bushel, 51 cents lower than in mid-December a year earlier and 56 cents below the 1949-53 average. The greatest pressure on prices has occurred in Louisiana where production was up about one and three-quarter million bushels from the 1954 level.

#### Sweetpotato Purchase Program

The low prices of sweetpotatoes in early fall resulted in a request by grower representatives that the Department of Agriculture take steps to assist the industry in disposing of the large crop. In November the Department put into effect a sweetpotato purchase program. The program which expired December 31, was financed with Section 32 funds and purchases were distributed to nonprofit school lunch programs and other eligible outlets. Market prices have been moving upward from the early fall lows and purchases under the program were relatively light--171 cars, in Louisiana.

#### Production of Sweetpotatoes On Lower Level In Recent Years

In the postwar years, and particularly in the last 5 years the production of sweetpotatoes has been at a significantly lower level than in the prewar period. A number of reasons have been advanced for the decline in production. Some of the more important factors appear to be the heavy labor requirements for growing and handling the crop, plant diseases, and more industrial employment and greater prosperity in the South, with declining emphasis on production of sweetpotatoes for home use. Compared with earlier periods, production of sweetpotatoes in recent years has tended to remain fairly steady or increase in areas producing principally for commercial market sale, but has tended to decline in areas producing mainly for home use.

#### USDA Guide Suggests Smaller Acreage in 1956

Like potatoes, the price of sweetpotatoes is very sensitive to any substantial change in supplies. It appears that in the past 4-5 years 30 to 33 million bushels of sweetpotatoes have been sufficient to meet normal trade requirements, at prices which would permit reasonable returns to growers.

The Department acreage guide suggests a 1956 acreage of sweetpotatoes for harvest about 6 percent less than in 1955 and 14 percent below the 1949-53 average. The guide recommends a 10 percent smaller acreage in Louisiana than a year ago and 5 percent fewer acres in each of the other States. The suggested acreage with 1951-55 average yields would result in a production 17 percent under that of 1955 and 14 percent less than the 1949-53 average.

## DRY EDIBLE BEANS

Supplies for 1955-56 Season  
Larger Than A Year Earlier

Total supplies of dry edible beans in the 1955-56 marketing season amount to more than 20 million 100-pound bags. This is about 4 percent more beans than was available in the previous marketing season. The increased supply is due largely to heavier carryover stocks, most of which were owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation. Production in 1955 on an uncleaned basis was slightly smaller than in 1954. But in Michigan, the most important producing State in 1955, the quality of the crop was much better than in 1954, and pickout was much lower. The result was that on a cleaned basis, the 1955 United States production was slightly larger than that of 1954.

The supply of white beans, which in 1950-54 made up about 37 percent of the total crop, is about 20 percent larger than a year earlier as a result of a substantially larger production in 1955. Supplies of colored beans are almost as large as a year earlier. Heavier carryover stocks of this group was almost sufficient to offset the smaller production. Supplies of lima beans are down about 23 percent from a year earlier with Baby Limas being down the most. Blackeye beans are in heavier supply than a year earlier.

Lower Prices For  
1955 Crop Beans

With larger overall supplies of dry edible beans available and with support prices fixed at a lower level, prices for the 1955 crop are expected to continue to average well below those of a year earlier. The National average support level for 1955 crop dry edible beans has been fixed at \$6.36 per 100 pounds, U. S. No. 1 beans, compared with \$7.24 for the 1954 crop. On December 15, the National average price received by farmers was \$1.54 per 100 pounds lower than in 1954, and 98 cents below the 1949-53 average.

Total Disappearance of Dry  
Edible Beans May be Larger  
In 1955-56 Than in 1954-55

With larger supplies available and prices likely to continue lower than a year earlier, total food use of dry edible beans probably will be larger this marketing season than last. All types of white beans, generally preferred in European markets, are in ample supply. This together with lower prices is expected to result in large exports. Also, plentiful supplies and lower prices for most types of beans may result in some increase in domestic consumption. If total usage in 1955-56 is as large as anticipated, carryover stocks at the end of the marketing season should be no larger and may be slightly smaller than the carryover at the end of last season.

## DRY FIELD PEAS

1955-56 Supplies of Dry Field  
Peas Much Smaller Than In 1954-55

The short 1955 crop and relatively light carryover stocks add up to a supply of dry field peas in the 1955-56 marketing season almost one-third smaller than in 1954-55. The 2.8 million bags of dry peas produced in 1955 was the second smallest crop in the past 15 years and was about 20 percent smaller than in 1954. Acreage for harvest was about 8 percent larger in 1955 than in the previous year, but yields were extremely low in Washington and Idaho which in 1949-53 accounted for more than four-fifths of total United States production.

Prospects for Steady Domestic  
Demand Compared With Year Earlier,  
Sharply Lower Export Demand

Utilization data for dry field peas are incomplete, but estimates indicate that in recent years annual domestic civilian food use has averaged one-half to two-thirds of a pound per person. This would mean a domestic food use equivalent to 800,000 to one million 100-pound bags of peas, most of which are consumed in the form of "split" pea soup. Non-food use in this country--seed, feed, and loss--has averaged in the neighborhood of one and a half million bags. This includes not only seed for the crop to be harvested as dry peas, but also garden seed and seed for the important crops harvested green for canning and freezing, and for sale on the fresh market. Demand for dry field peas in this country during the remainder of the marketing season is not expected to differ appreciably from that of the 1954-55 season.

In most recent years, domestic demand for dry peas has been satisfied and most of the remaining production has been exported. The postwar readjustment in exports and the consequent reduction in production was sharp, but was accomplished substantially by 1950. Exports tended to increase from 1950-51 to 1953-54, and were up sharply in 1954-55 when Europe had a virtual crop failure. With a more normal supply situation in Europe, export demand for United States dry peas is expected to be down sharply from the 1954-55 level.

Prices for 1955 Crop Peas  
Likely to Continue Above  
Average but Lower Than a  
Year Earlier

Although supplies of dry field peas are much smaller than a year earlier, they appear adequate to meet domestic requirements. With the sharply lower export demand for dry field peas for the remainder of the 1955-56 marketing season, prices are expected to average moderately lower than the high levels of a year earlier. However, with the light supply situation, dry peas are expected to continue to bring considerably higher prices than in most other recent years.



1956 Production  
Prospects

Prices received by farmers for the dry field peas were favorable relative to most other farm products in 1952, 1953, and 1954. And with the season average prices for the 1955 crop expected to be well above average, farmers who grow dry field peas are likely to plant at least as large an acreage to peas in 1956 as in 1955. Barring another year of very poor yields, production of dry peas in 1956 is expected to be materially larger than the small crop of 1955.

TREND IN CANNED VEGETABLES TO SMALLER SIZE CANS

Table 2 of this issue presents data on the relative number of cases of commercially canned vegetables, potatoes, and sweetpotatoes packed by size of can, 1935-55. The table is similar to the one published in the July 29, 1953 issue of The Vegetable Situation. In the present table data are shown for 1953 and 1954, and where available preliminary data for 1955.

In recent years there has been for most vegetables a very notable shift in canning away from the once popular No. 2 can toward the smaller No. 303 and No. 300 sizes. For a few items such as asparagus and green peas the trend became apparent in the immediate prewar period. Then just as the smaller sizes seemed to be gaining favor, their manufacture and use was abandoned in World War II as a tin conservation measure.

With the relaxation of wartime controls the shift toward the smaller sizes has been evident for most of the more important vegetables and has been going on at an accelerated rate. There are of course certain items where a larger size can is still predominant. The No. 2½ can is still the most popular size for sauerkraut, and pumpkin and squash, the No. 10 for tomato pulp and puree, the No. 3 cylinder for tomato juice, and the Number 3 vacuum for sweetpotatoes. But for most of these items also the smaller sizes are increasing in importance.



Table 2.- Commercial canned vegetables: Relative number of cases packed, by major can sizes, United States, 1935-55

Year	ASPARAGUS								BEANS, GREEN AND WAX					
	No. 1	No. 300	No. 1	No. 2	No. 2½	No. 10	Other	8Z	No. 1	No. 303	No. 2	No. 10	Other	
	picnic		square		square				picnic					
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	
1935	22.4	---	20.9	24.6	15.1	4.4	12.6	---	1.8	---	78.3	15.9	4.0	
1936	25.2	3.0	22.3	22.8	12.1	5.2	9.4	---	1.3	---	77.5	16.8	4.4	
1937	24.5	5.3	16.2	30.3	7.5	6.4	9.8	---	1.6	---	79.1	14.5	4.8	
1938	25.5	6.0	15.8	29.3	7.4	5.8	10.2	---	1.7	---	79.6	14.9	3.8	
1939	26.9	8.5	15.4	27.1	4.5	4.8	12.8	---	1.8	---	80.5	12.1	5.6	
1940	28.2	8.2	15.1	26.9	2.4	5.6	13.6	---	2.5	---	74.4	15.1	8.0	
1941	20.8	14.5	8.2	35.4	2.0	5.7	13.4	---	1.9	---	73.0	17.4	7.7	
1942	8.2	8.2	5.8	53.8	.3	18.0	5.7	---	.6	---	67.1	27.5	4.8	
1943	1.2	3.9	3.2	62.9	.1	25.5	3.2	---	---	---	67.7	28.9	3.4	
1944	.6	---	1.7	69.9	---	24.2	3.6	---	---	---	64.6	32.0	3.4	
1945	.1	.1	---	68.0	---	27.4	4.4	---	---	---	70.7	25.7	3.6	
1946	---	---	.4	84.7	---	8.0	6.9	---	---	---	79.4	16.0	4.6	
1947	25.1	21.4	---	44.6	---	4.7	4.2	---	.8	---	75.2	20.6	3.4	
1948	27.5	22.7	---	38.9	---	4.9	6.0	2.8	3.4	---	70.2	20.0	3.6	
1949	26.6	18.6	---	41.1	---	4.7	9.0	3.5	3.1	---	68.3	18.7	6.4	
1950	27.0	21.7	---	37.9	---	4.9	8.5	5.5	3.5	14.2	55.9	18.1	2.8	
1951	25.2	23.1	---	37.7	---	4.6	9.4	7.5	2.2	47.0	21.1	20.2	2.0	
1952	23.3	27.7	---	29.2	---	4.1	15.7	8.4	1.1	63.4	4.3	20.0	2.8	
1953	19.3	44.3	---	18.5	---	4.5	13.4	8.1	1.2	65.8	1.9	20.3	2.7	
1954	19.3	50.1	---	12.2	---	5.6	12.8	7.7	.8	68.2	.8	19.8	2.7	
1955	19.2	51.0	---	12.4	---	5.2	12.2	---	---	---	---	---	---	

Year	CORN, SWEET								BEANS, LIMA					
	8Z	No. 1	12Z	No. 303	No. 2	No. 10	Other	8Z	No. 1	No. 303	No. 2	No. 10	Other	
	Percent	Percent	vacuum	and 300	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	picnic	Percent	Percent	Percent	
1935	0.4	4.4	---	---	9.2	74.6	4.5	7.0	0.9	6.3	---	82.2	10.3	0.3
1936	.1	3.1	8.1	---	5.6	78.8	3.9	.4	.5	4.4	---	87.3	7.1	.7
1937	.4	3.4	9.3	---	10.9	72.1	3.8	.1	.5	3.7	---	80.3	12.8	2.7
1938	.5	2.9	9.0	---	5.2	77.4	4.8	.2	.6	4.7	---	82.8	8.7	3.2
1939	.4	3.3	16.0	---	8.6	68.0	3.6	.1	.9	6.7	---	76.5	8.2	7.7
1940	.5	3.2	17.0	---	9.7	63.2	5.7	.7	1.2	6.2	---	77.4	9.3	5.9
1941	.4	3.9	12.4	---	10.9	65.9	5.6	.9	.6	5.9	---	69.7	10.3	13.5
1942	---	1.2	11.3	---	4.8	77.5	4.1	1.1	.2	3.6	---	67.4	16.6	12.2
1943	---	.1	14.4	---	.5	79.8	3.8	1.4	---	.7	---	77.7	14.3	7.3
1944	---	.1	16.8	---	---	78.7	4.2	.2	---	---	---	82.5	15.0	2.5
1945	---	---	18.1	---	---	77.7	3.4	.8	---	---	---	90.5	8.2	1.3
1946	---	---	20.7	---	---	76.3	2.8	.2	---	---	---	94.9	5.1	---
1947	.2	1.8	19.7	---	8.8	64.3	5.1	.1	.2	1.9	---	74.9	6.6	16.4
1948	1.1	4.1	20.5	---	25.4	43.4	5.3	.2	.7	4.5	39.0	50.2	5.6	---
1949	4.6	5.0	19.1	---	37.5	26.2	7.4	.2	2.0	2.8	55.6	30.5	8.8	.3
1950	8.0	3.0	20.1	---	58.0	6.4	4.4	.1	7.2	1.8	70.1	9.5	10.8	.6
1951	8.1	1.8	18.1	---	61.3	4.4	6.1	.2	7.8	1.3	72.1	6.3	12.5	---
1952	8.0	.9	18.2	---	64.1	1.1	7.5	.2	7.9	1.2	75.0	1.1	14.7	.1
1953	8.7	.7	16.8	---	64.0	.2	9.3	.3	8.7	.4	72.9	.3	17.7	---
1954	10.1	.6	21.5	---	61.6	---	6.0	.2	11.9	.2	74.6	---	13.3	---
1955	8.7	.4	24.9	---	60.6	---	5.1	.3	8.6	.1	79.4	---	11.9	---

Year	SPINACH								BEETS					
	8Z	No. 1	No. 303	No. 2	No. 2½	No. 10	Other	8Z	No. 303	No. 2	No. 2½	No. 10	Other	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	
1935	1.4	2.3	---	---	32.6	41.9	16.0	5.8	0.9	---	39.4	28.2	21.1	10.4
1936	1.2	7.1	---	---	32.0	44.1	14.6	1.0	1.6	---	40.4	25.8	23.1	9.1
1937	1.0	2.2	---	---	44.1	36.5	12.0	4.2	1.9	---	44.9	24.5	17.1	11.6
1938	1.5	3.3	---	---	46.4	30.2	14.6	4.0	1.1	---	45.3	22.2	18.4	13.0
1939	2.0	4.1	---	---	42.5	31.3	13.2	6.9	1.9	---	47.1	14.1	18.7	18.2
1940	2.8	2.8	---	---	49.1	27.5	13.9	3.9	2.3	---	45.6	16.5	22.1	13.5
1941	2.5	3.3	---	---	42.5	28.2	18.0	5.5	1.6	---	45.1	17.1	21.7	14.5
1942	---	---	---	---	34.4	25.7	37.8	2.1	---	---	27.3	6.7	35.1	30.9
1943	---	---	---	---	18.4	29.0	50.1	2.5	---	---	28.8	7.0	27.6	36.6
1944	---	---	---	---	38.9	26.7	34.3	.1	---	---	32.3	8.6	29.3	29.8
1945	---	---	---	---	51.2	22.1	26.7	---	---	---	39.8	9.4	21.7	29.1
1946	---	---	---	---	56.8	28.1	14.3	.8	---	---	53.6	7.2	18.2	21.0
1947	---	---	---	---	54.9	20.7	20.1	4.3	.6	---	53.2	3.8	20.4	22.0
1948	1.7	4.2	---	---	54.2	19.4	17.6	2.9	2.1	---	50.1	4.8	19.8	23.2
1949	3.1	4.3	0.3	---	54.2	17.6	18.5	2.0	2.6	---	44.0	3.7	16.6	33.1
1950	4.4	5.5	2.5	---	47.8	19.9	17.4	2.5	5.7	18.8	39.6	2.1	18.6	15.2
1951	4.5	4.6	8.2	---	43.3	18.0	18.9	2.5	8.0	38.0	23.8	1.8	14.6	13.8
1952	4.4	5.7	15.5	---	35.4	16.4	18.7	3.9	9.0	55.7	4.1	.9	18.0	12.3
1953	5.0	6.3	45.3	---	7.1	14.5	20.7	1.1	9.0	67.2	1.1	.7	21.7	.3
1954	3.8	4.4	54.7	---	3.7	16.0	17.4	---	10.0	71.7	.3	.4	16.8	.8
1955	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Year	TOMATO JUICE								PEAS, GREEN					
	Indiv.	No. 211	No. 300	No. 2	No. 3	No. 10	Other	8Z	No. 1	No. 303	No. 2	No. 10	Other	
	5-6 oz.	cylinder			cylinder				picnic					
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	
1935	---	---	3.0	---	5.0	---	16.6	75.4	1.2	6.2	5.5	78.6	7.6	0.9
1936	---	---	3.0	---	4.7	---	17.2	75.1	1.4	5.5	7.8	77.8	6.9	.6
1937	---	3.4	16.6	2.5	7.0	---	16.9	53.6	1.4	5.1	10.7	75.3	6.9	.6
1938	---	6.9	13.7	2.7	15.0	---	17.1	44.6	1.6	4.1	11.4	75.4	6.8	.7
1939	---	6.7	11.6	4.7	18.8	---	17.3	40.9	1.9	5.9	20.4	64.5	6.5	.8
1940	---	6.0	9.6	6.7	20.4	---	13.7	43.6	1.5	6.2	19.6	64.7	7.3	.7
1941	---	4.4	11.3	5.1	29.0	---	14.8	35.4	1.4	6.2	22.5	60.3	8.8	.8
1942	---	2.9	8.0	15.0	34.3	---	16.0	23.8	---	---	13.6	70.4	12.1	3.9
1943	---	2.1	.3	32.6	34.4	---	23.8	6.8	---	---	2.1	83.2	13.4	1.3
1944	---	---	.6	41.4	32.4	---	22.3	3.3	---	---	.4	84.3	14.8	.5
1945	---	---	.5	40.9	45.8	---	10.4	2.4	---	---	---	86.9	12.7	.4
1946	---	---	---	44.4	46.5	---	6.7	2.4	---	---	---	91.5	8.0	.5
1947	---	3.8	1.8	27.5	44.9	---	6.6	15.4	1.2	3.7	26.3	60.0	7.8	1.0
1948	5.2	1.4	7.6	24.1	50.5	---	4.2	7.0	5.0	10.1	42.3	31.9	10.2	.5
1949	8.0	5.2	2.1	20.1	52.1	---	3.7	8.8	7.0	7.7	51.9	20.1	12.4	.9
1950	7.8	3.8	3.4	20.6	53.7	---	3.4	7.3	9.1	4.1	70.2	8.0	8.2	.4
1951	9.2	3.8	2.1	19.2	52.7	---	4.2	8.8	9.4	2.7	71.9	3.8	11.8	.4
1952	10.0	4.7	3.2	16.9	54.2	---	2.1	8.9	12.6	2.7	69.9	1.2	13.5	.1
1953	8.7	4.2	2.6	15.3	58.0	---	2.5	8.7	12.4	2.1	71.8	.7	12.6	.4
1954	10.0	5.9	3.4	14.5	56.9	---	2.2	7.1	15.1	1.4	72.7	.4	10.1	.3
1955	10.2	5.8	2.5	14.6	55.2	---	2.0	9.7	14.4	.9	74.4	---	10.0	.3

Continued



Table 2.- Commercial canned vegetables: Relative number of cases packed, by major can sizes, United States, 1935-55 - Continued

PUMPKIN AND SQUASH							SAUERKRAUT 1/					
Year	No. 300	No. 303	No. 2	No. 2½	No. 10	Other	No. 300	No. 303	No. 2	No. 2½	No. 10	Other
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1935	---	---	11.6	56.9	29.9	1.6	---	---	---	---	---	---
1936	---	---	12.6	66.9	19.3	1.2	---	---	---	---	---	---
1937	---	---	16.5	62.7	19.6	1.2	---	---	---	---	---	---
1938	---	---	16.9	60.9	20.0	2.2	---	---	---	---	---	---
1939	1.3	---	12.5	65.8	20.1	.3	---	---	17.4	67.3	8.2	7.1
1940	1.3	---	14.0	56.8	27.7	.2	---	---	15.1	67.9	11.7	5.3
1941	.8	---	11.0	59.5	28.5	.2	---	---	16.9	54.9	23.3	4.9
1942	---	---	.1	83.3	14.9	1.7	---	---	.6	12.4	55.1	31.9
1943	---	---	1.3	87.6	8.3	2.8	---	---	.9	5.5	77.3	16.3
1944	---	---	---	77.3	15.6	7.1	---	---	---	34.9	49.3	15.8
1945	---	---	.5	73.8	23.1	2.6	---	---	---	84.6	8.6	6.8
1946	---	---	.2	80.2	16.2	3.4	---	---	---	83.7	9.9	6.4
1947	---	---	6.3	64.3	25.6	3.8	---	---	19.8	64.7	11.8	3.7
1948	8.3	22.7	2.9	51.2	14.1	.7	---	---	23.2	62.0	10.3	4.5
1949	7.4	12.4	3.2	58.6	16.7	1.7	6.5	1.7	26.8	55.2	9.4	.4
1950	4.8	13.5	7.0	52.1	20.0	2.6	8.7	5.5	22.6	49.8	12.2	1.2
1951	5.7	16.3	5.1	55.4	17.4	---	8.3	14.6	16.6	45.1	14.4	1.0
1952	5.1	23.2	6.6	47.1	17.8	.2	9.2	24.1	12.0	42.9	10.8	1.0
1953	7.7	28.7	2.9	39.3	20.2	1.2	9.2	26.4	11.1	43.4	9.0	.9
1954	12.6	20.6	---	47.6	15.3	3.9	---	---	---	---	---	---
1955	---	33.7	---	42.5	18.7	5.1	---	---	---	---	---	---

TOMATOES							TOMATO PULP AND PUREE					
	No. 1 picnic	No. 303	No. 2	No. 2½	No. 10	Other	No. 1 picnic	No. 2	No. 2½	No. 10	5 gallon	Other
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1935	1.9	---	69.2	14.5	9.5	4.9	5.7	1.2	---	69.1	12.8	11.2
1936	5.2	---	57.7	22.1	12.0	3.0	7.1	1.7	---	77.7	5.5	8.0
1937	4.2	---	62.0	19.7	11.4	2.7	8.4	2.4	0.2	75.4	10.4	3.2
1938	5.0	---	61.0	19.2	12.8	2.0	5.9	1.8	.4	71.1	15.2	5.6
1939	5.3	---	55.9	23.4	12.8	2.6	11.1	1.9	.2	66.9	10.6	9.3
1940	5.6	---	53.3	24.5	13.2	3.4	7.1	1.2	.2	68.2	5.2	18.1
1941	3.5	---	49.6	28.9	14.5	3.5	5.8	1.1	.2	75.7	6.1	11.1
1942	1.7	---	57.3	22.2	17.8	1.0	8.9	1.6	2.7	69.6	10.5	6.7
1943	.3	---	56.4	22.7	20.2	.4	9.0	.7	1.8	66.6	15.5	6.4
1944	.4	---	59.7	20.2	19.6	.1	4.8	1.7	9.8	66.4	13.2	4.1
1945	.1	---	60.1	22.4	17.4	---	5.9	2.6	21.1	55.3	7.4	7.7
1946	.1	---	67.2	23.6	9.1	---	4.6	2.9	13.4	63.4	4.2	11.5
1947	2.2	---	59.3	22.6	14.1	1.8	8.4	1.8	1.5	77.6	5.8	4.9
1948	4.0	1.0	58.6	16.8	17.2	2.4	10.3	7.8	10.5	61.3	3.7	6.4
1949	4.4	1.0	56.6	17.4	18.1	2.5	9.8	2.3	16.3	60.2	7.1	4.3
1950	5.1	4.9	54.8	18.1	15.7	1.4	12.9	1.3	14.0	65.4	3.1	3.3
1951	3.7	7.8	47.4	20.2	19.0	1.9	8.8	2.4	14.2	69.4	3.0	2.2
1952	3.6	24.0	33.1	19.7	17.8	1.8	14.4	2.3	14.8	60.7	1.3	6.4
1953	3.2	42.8	15.6	16.9	19.8	1.7	11.7	2.3	15.2	62.6	3.0	5.2
1954	4.3	54.6	5.0	15.9	19.6	.6	18.4	2.2	17.4	52.5	2.6	6.9
1955	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

CARROTS						SWEET POTATOES					
Year	8z	No. 303	No. 2	No. 10	Other	No. 303	No. 2	No. 2½	3 vacuum	No. 10	Other
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1937	3.2	---	61.4	28.6	6.8	---	---	---	---	---	---
1938	2.6	---	68.1	23.5	5.8	---	---	---	---	---	---
1939	2.4	---	59.0	28.7	9.9	---	---	---	---	---	---
1940	3.1	---	56.7	31.8	8.4	---	---	---	---	---	---
1941	2.2	---	50.0	32.1	15.7	---	---	---	---	---	---
1942	---	---	29.6	47.7	22.7	---	18.5	25.1	47.2	7.8	1.4
1943	---	---	23.0	30.4	46.6	---	22.1	33.2	37.6	6.6	.5
1944	---	---	26.0	45.4	28.6	---	1.4	98.3	---	.3	---
1945	---	---	40.8	30.4	28.8	---	.3	68.3	27.4	3.9	.1
1946	---	---	59.9	36.2	3.9	---	.5	87.2	9.1	3.2	---
1947	2.0	---	30.5	51.7	15.8	---	1.2	66.3	27.2	5.3	---
1948	4.1	---	44.6	40.5	10.8	---	5.9	66.6	22.4	5.1	---
1949	6.2	---	41.9	38.4	13.5	---	7.9	21.9	60.4	7.5	2.3
1950	8.9	17.4	26.6	44.6	2.5	---	7.3	26.0	57.9	7.7	1.1
1951	7.4	28.9	20.6	41.2	1.9	1.3	11.7	26.4	46.9	10.3	4.7
1952	7.5	38.8	6.9	45.6	1.2	6.2	8.9	30.4	40.6	10.7	9.4
1953	9.6	45.5	1.8	43.1	---	11.1	9.6	32.0	39.0	10.2	7.9
1954	8.5	47.1	1.3	42.8	.3	14.9	17.8	28.3	29.0	11.9	6.8
1955	---	---	---	---	---	---	5.1	20.9	36.4	12.7	9.6
								17.6	39.5	12.4	10.5

POTATOES				
	No. 303 and 300	No. 2	No. 10	Other
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1937	---	---	---	---
1938	---	---	---	---
1939	---	---	---	---
1940	---	---	---	---
1941	---	---	---	---
1942	---	---	---	---
1943	---	---	---	---
1944	---	---	---	---
1945	---	---	---	---
1946	---	92.8	3.6	3.6
1947	---	81.0	6.5	12.5
1948	---	88.7	7.5	3.8
1949	1.0	74.6	9.0	15.4
1950	4.0	71.1	8.9	16.0
1951	9.4	60.7	9.2	20.7
1952	43.6	40.8	9.7	5.9
1953	61.6	17.5	11.4	9.5
1954	83.4	2.2	8.0	6.4
1955	---	---	---	---

1/ Pack beginning year shown.

Basic data from National Canners' Association. Percentages computed by Agricultural Marketing Service.

Table 3 .- Vegetables for fresh market: Commercial acreage, production, and season average price per unit received by farmers, for principal crops, average 1949-53, annual 1954 and 1955

Crop	Acreage			Unit	Production			Price per unit		
	Average	1954	1955		Average	1954	1955	Average	1954	1955
	1949-53				1949-53			1949-53		
	Acres	Acres	Acres		1,000 units	1,000 units	1,000 units	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Artichokes	7,580	9,000	8,900	Box	737	900	890	3.81	3.05	3.40
Asparagus	41,860	42,750	36,620	Crate	3,736	3,448	3,412	3.90	4.03	4.50
Beans, lima	21,110	17,600	17,150	Bushel	1,657	1,376	1,312	2.58	2.71	2.37
Beans, snap	175,220	158,400	157,350	Bushel	18,228	17,907	18,722	2.47	2.43	2.36
Beets	8,700	8,960	7,700	Bushel	1,638	1,617	1,318	1.33	1.34	1.30
Broccoli 1/	40,350	38,650	42,600	Crate	4,662	4,490	5,203	3.62	3.22	3.51
Brussels sprouts 1/	5,570	6,100	4,900	Ton	24,920	31,300	18,800	205.46	152.04	175.21
Cabbage 2/	149,100	142,480	132,210	Ton	1,191,400	1,124,900	994,600	39.71	28.74	43.98
Cantaloups 3/	129,440	153,150	152,570	Crate	14,183	16,062	15,604	3.21	3.34	3.54
Carrots 1/	85,070	80,000	79,930	Bushel	30,506	31,056	28,634	1.52	1.66	1.48
Cauliflower 1/	31,090	28,050	28,900	Crate	12,541	10,268	11,969	1.25	1.33	1.42
Celery 1/	37,040	36,720	33,710	Crate	22,962	25,145	24,711	2.31	1.99	2.41
Corn, sweet	216,400	224,100	216,000	5-dozen ears	22,870	24,981	26,237	1.71	1.77	1.55
Cucumbers	48,940	52,450	49,650	Bushel	7,139	8,231	8,135	2.45	2.29	2.21
Eggplant	5,090	4,800	4,450	Bushel	1,437	1,480	1,476	1.57	1.61	1.46
Escarole	4,020	4,500	4,600	Bushel	1,976	2,452	2,553	1.22	1.05	1.05
Garlic	2,320	1,950	2,600	Sack	137	146	195	11.51	13.00	10.70
Honey balls	530	---	---	Crate	67	---	---	4.28	---	---
Honey dews	9,830	13,100	13,700	Crate	2,985	4,010	3,624	2.02	2.10	2.09
Kale	2,920	3,000	3,000	Bushel	1,172	1,050	990	.66	.55	.80
Lettuce	211,620	205,640	210,920	Crate	37,818	40,695	41,938	3.19	3.08	3.31
Onions 2/	121,880	116,500	113,940	Sack	42,720	43,602	40,695	1.40	1.07	1.31
Peas, green	21,220	14,430	12,060	Bushel	2,188	1,417	1,457	2.20	2.45	2.43
Peppers, green	39,310	49,050	44,890	Bushel	9,406	11,306	11,441	2.09	1.87	1.93
Shallots	5,080	4,700	6,100	Barrel	140	127	214	7.78	9.43	5.49
Spinach	48,150	39,160	38,170	Bushel	11,249	9,227	9,009	1.10	1.14	1.23
Tomatoes	233,800	250,500	243,900	Bushel	34,096	37,443	39,232	3.52	3.46	3.61
Watermelons 4/	381,350	453,650	455,600	Melon	100,229	119,803	131,170	365.00	294.00	330.00
Total	2,084,814	2,159,390	2,122,120	Ton	9,580.1	10,287.4	10,289.8	75.67	70.85	76.43

1/ Includes some quantities used for processing.

2/ Includes production used for dehydration.

3/ Includes Casabas, Persians, and other muskmelons.

4/ Price based on 1,000 melons.

Table 4. - Vegetables, fresh, potatoes, and sweetpotatoes: Unloads at 19 markets, indicated periods in 1954, with comparisons (Expressed in carlot equivalents)

Commodity	1954										1955									
	September					July					August					September				
	Rail, boat, and air	Truck	Im- ports	Total		Rail, boat, and air	Truck	Im- ports	Total		Rail, boat, and air	Truck	Im- ports	Total		Rail, boat, and air	Truck	Im- ports	Total	
Asparagus	---	---	---	---	3	---	25	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Beans, lima	---	---	---	---	3	---	25	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
snap and fava	2	1,475	---	1,477	15	954	3	1,365	---	1,368	3	1,420	---	1,423	3	1,205	---	---	---	---
Beets	---	183	---	183	---	---	220	---	220	---	---	191	---	191	---	---	---	---	---	---
Broccoli	39	106	---	145	82	214	5	69	---	74	26	49	---	75	63	96	---	---	---	---
Brussels sprouts	54	52	---	106	98	77	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Cabbage	66	1,801	---	1,867	49	1,956	5	1,796	---	1,801	36	2,024	---	2,060	103	2,135	---	---	---	---
Cantaloupes and other melons 1/	2,754	1,294	9	4,057	1,238	475	32	2,095	---	6,862	5,204	2,608	4	7,816	3,498	1,520	6	5,024	1,267	---
Carrots	694	735	---	1,429	721	855	2	1,578	---	1,266	663	646	---	1,309	778	831	4	1,613	640	---
Cauliflower	63	1,299	---	1,362	69	1,411	53	367	---	420	118	379	---	497	97	577	---	674	69	---
Celery	567	1,566	---	2,133	711	1,377	---	1,347	---	2,319	814	1,368	37	2,219	830	1,273	5	2,108	785	---
Corn	69	2,309	---	2,379	145	749	---	3,140	---	3,640	105	3,173	---	3,278	97	1,838	---	1,935	134	---
Cucumbers	65	956	---	1,021	41	747	---	1,690	---	1,722	12	1,248	---	1,260	36	983	---	1,019	55	---
Escarole and endive	1	325	1	327	2	372	---	---	---	266	1	296	---	297	---	295	1	296	7	---
Lettuce and romaine	2,915	2,043	33	4,991	2,676	2,329	---	3,335	79	6,117	3,395	2,526	37	5,958	3,265	2,237	---	5,502	2,972	---
Onions, dry	652	1,797	6	2,455	636	1,541	4	1,252	83	2,231	541	1,708	12	2,261	693	1,731	19	2,143	757	---
Onions, green 2/	---	274	2	276	9	234	4	362	---	363	6	323	24	353	2	264	---	266	51	---
Peas, green	69	30	---	99	72	31	---	89	---	191	161	64	---	225	65	30	---	95	35	---
Peppers	15	1,063	2	1,080	107	840	2	940	5	1,096	10	1,088	1	1,099	31	982	2	1,015	118	---
Spinach	25	283	---	308	16	334	---	211	---	220	25	132	---	157	21	186	---	207	12	---
Other cooking greens	---	437	105	542	---	555	---	323	---	325	12	371	---	383	12	451	---	463	28	---
Squash	1	700	3	704	3	968	4	456	---	462	1	455	6	462	---	628	---	628	11	---
Tomatoes	589	3,792	1	4,382	1,514	2,275	2	4,416	43	5,081	209	4,570	93	4,872	729	3,350	---	4,079	1,658	---
Turnips and rutabagas	4	185	140	329	29	214	251	117	1	121	4	105	10	119	18	154	143	315	66	---
Watermelons	72	1,490	---	1,562	9	137	---	8,014	---	13,190	999	6,269	---	7,268	73	1,465	---	1,538	---	---
Other vegetables (including mixed)	321	1,072	89	1,482	307	1,206	153	1,107	58	1,350	246	1,263	110	1,619	538	1,185	54	1,777	473	---
Total above:	9,037	25,267	392	34,696	8,549	20,030	459	33,559	269	50,730	12,592	32,286	334	45,212	10,981	23,645	234	34,860	9,411	---
Potatoes	5,134	5,321	1	10,456	5,400	4,687	---	5,304	---	10,759	4,456	6,060	---	10,516	4,625	6,329	---	10,954	5,568	---
Sweet-potatoes	45	1,260	16	1,321	71	1,439	10	1,520	8	249	9	652	12	681	33	1,153	---	1,186	71	---
GRAND TOTAL:	14,216	31,848	409	46,473	14,020	26,156	469	40,645	22,365	61,755	17,065	38,998	346	56,409	15,639	31,127	234	47,000	15,050	---

1/ Except watermelons.

2/ Includes shallots, chives, cipollinas, leeks, scallions, and green onions.

Markets include: Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas and Ft. Worth, Denver, Detroit, Kansas City (Missouri), Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Oakland (California), Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington, D. C.



Table 5.- Vegetables, fresh: Representative prices (l.c.l. sales) at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No.1 when available), indicated periods, 1955-56, with comparisons

Market, commodity, and State of origin	Unit	Tuesday nearest mid-month					
		1954-55			1955-56		
		Dec. 14	Jan. 11	Oct. 18	Nov. 15	Dec. 13	Jan. 10
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
<u>New York</u>							
Beans, snap, green,							
Florida, valentine	Bushel	3.60	6.50	---	3.01	3.48	6.50
Beets, bunched, Texas	$\frac{1}{2}$ WGA crate	3.31	3.33	---	---	3.75	3.25
Broccoli, California	14's, small crate	3.35	3.62	3.15	3.50	3.37	4.25
Cabbage, Domestic,							
Round type, Florida	1-3/4 bushel	3.56	2.75	---	---	2.88	2.66
Cabbage, Danish type,							
New York	50-pound sack	1.06	1.02	1.75	2.01	1.91	2.17
Carrots, bunched,							
California	WGA crate	6.23	6.16	8.00	7.71	7.25	6.25
Carrots, topped,							
California	48-1 lb. film bag	5.62	5.50	4.96	6.23	7.00	5.80
Cauliflower, Texas	crate	5.62	5.50	4.96	6.23	7.00	5.80
Celery, Golden Heart,	Double-deck crate	3.87	3.34	---	---	4.25	3.38
California							
Celery, Pascal, California	$\frac{1}{2}$ crate	7.80	---	---	6.50	5.50	4.00
Cucumbers, Florida	16-inch crate	4.06	5.30	5.52	4.19	3.75	3.91
Eggplant, Florida	Bushel	4.35	6.25	2.50	3.58	4.75	8.30
Escarole, Florida	Bushel	2.25	2.32	2.25	2.22	2.00	3.42
Lettuce, Iceberg type,	1-1/9 bu. crate	1.60	1.81	---	1.62	1.88	2.81
California							
Onions, Sweet Spanish,	2-dozen carton	---	4.75	4.25	---	3.93	2.65
Idaho, large size							
Onions, yellow, New York	50-pound sack	2.30	2.62	2.62	2.62	2.60	3.01
medium size							
Peppers, green, Florida	50-pound sack	1.66	1.74	1.67	---	1.40	1.45
Spinach, Savoy type,	Bushel	2.83	2.81	1.63	---	3.25	4.33
various States							
Tomatoes, Florida	Bushel	2.37	2.75	1.12	1.38	2.07	2.09
	6x6, 60-lb. crt.	7.00	5.61	---	---	4.10	10.95
<u>Chicago</u>							
Beans, snap, green,							
Valentine, Florida	Bushel	4.25	6.50	---	3.60	3.75	7.50
Beets, bunched, Texas	$\frac{1}{2}$ WGA crate	2.50	2.75	---	---	---	2.40
Broccoli, California	Pony crate	5.65	8.00	6.00	7.70	7.00	5.80
Cabbage, Domestic Round							
type, Wisconsin	50-pound sack	1.25	1.25	1.50	---	1.75	2.25
Carrots, topped, Illinois	50-pound sack	1.10	1.00	1.25	1.25	1.90	1.75
Celery, Pascal, California	16-inch crate	3.65	4.10	4.75	3.75	3.40	3.40
Cucumbers, Florida	Bushel	5.25	6.25	3.50	3.90	4.75	7.75
Eggplant, Florida	Bushel	2.50	2.35	2.88	2.50	2.35	3.40
Lettuce, Iceberg type,							
California	WGA crate,						
	2 dozen heads	2.25	4.65	3.65	---	3.30	2.50
Onions, Sweet Spanish							
Oregon and Idaho	50-pound sack	1.90	2.35	2.15	2.35	2.30	2.70
Onions, yellow, Globe,							
Midwestern	50-pound sack	1.50	1.40	2.00	1.90	1.80	1.70
Peppers, green, Texas	Bushel	2.15	2.75	---	4.00	2.85	---
Spinach, flat type,							
Texas	Bushel	1.60	2.00	---	---	1.70	1.50

Table 6 .- Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Average prices received by farmers, U. S., December 1955, with comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Average first half of month				
		1954		1955		
		November	December	October	November	December
		Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Beans, snap	Bu.	3.05	2.50	2.55	2.55	2.40
Broccoli	Crt.	4.75	3.90	4.55	3.95	3.95
Cabbage	Ton	30.00	39.20	44.50	52.80	56.10
Carrots	Bu.	1.85	1.90	1.80	2.35	2.85
Cauliflower	Crt.	1.90	1.50	1.75	1.25	1.10
Celery	Crt.	2.25	2.15	3.00	2.30	1.95
Corn, sweet	5 doz. ears	2.20	2.25	1.65	1.80	2.00
Cucumbers	Bu.	1.95	2.20	2.15	2.40	2.65
Lettuce	Crt.	4.75	2.20	3.00	2.70	3.60
Onions	Sack	1.10	1.05	1.25	1.30	1.25
Peppers, green	Bu.	1.55	1.70	1.40	1.50	2.20
Spinach	Bu.	1.15	1.25	1.10	1.05	1.25
Tomatoes	Bu.	4.25	4.65	2.85	4.55	3.35

Table 7 .- Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Index numbers (unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, United States, as of the 15th of the month, indicated periods 1/

(1910-1914 = 100)													
Period	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average
1935-39	114	121	133	130	125	98	87	82	81	90	103	115	107
1947-49	288	305	310	308	277	215	207	196	193	204	241	246	249
Year													
1950	257	213	195	276	231	211	200	170	156	165	214	249	211
1951	338	346	288	333	276	215	203	197	190	211	290	343	269
1952	301	249	294	341	311	294	289	240	203	224	266	281	274
1953	263	262	249	254	251	289	246	201	192	198	224	235	239
1954	247	227	230	266	247	197	228	199	173	190	226	221	221
1955	257	258	262	270	308	230	223	211	230	223	231	231	244

1/ Revised. In addition to the vegetables included in the series published prior to Jan. 1954, the following have been added: broccoli, sweet corn, cucumbers, and watermelons.

Table 8.- Vegetables for commercial processing: Acreage, production, and season average price per ton received by farmers, average 1944-53, annual 1954 and 1955

Crop	Harvested acreage			Production			Price per ton		
	Average	1954	1955	Average	1954	1955	Average	1954	1955
	1944-53			1944-53			1944-53		
	Acres	Acres	Acres	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Asparagus	81,760	100,850	115,060	99.0	101.6	128.4	187.60	226.10	245.90
Beans, lima 1/	88,080	111,920	99,210	70.9	103.0	87.3	140.60	149.30	142.60
Beans, snap	125,410	154,000	138,690	236.8	341.4	310.1	112.40	119.20	110.00
Beets	16,250	15,570	17,520	143.1	146.8	139.4	20.60	20.70	20.50
Cabbage for kraut	17,810	15,630	13,250	189.1	208.1	160.7	14.10	12.00	18.20
Corn, sweet 2/	466,950	453,210	388,570	1,239.8	1,488.8	1,168.7	21.10	20.70	19.40
Cucumbers for pickles	127,330	140,210	126,000	250.6	304.6	312.1	60.50	59.20	54.10
Peas, green 1/	430,340	426,720	433,700	438.2	400.1	454.2	87.40	92.20	89.50
Pimientos 3/	17,460	31,300	26,500	20.0	22.2	34.5	69.90	89.10	89.10
Spinach	36,800	24,910	29,460	113.4	91.3	123.0	46.20	38.30	38.10
Tomatoes	425,900	268,550	316,820	3,109.1	2,697.7	3,224.5	27.90	24.40	25.00
Total	1,833,240	1,742,870	1,704,780	5,903.3	5,905.6	6,142.9	39.80	40.91	41.08

1/ Production and price on a "shelled" basis.

2/ Corn in the husk.

3/ Georgia and Tennessee plus acreage contracted in other States by Georgia processors.

Table 9 .- Frozen vegetables: Cold-storage holdings, December 31, 1955, with comparisons

Commodity	Dec.	1954	1955					Dec. 31
	average							1/
	1950-54	Dec. 31	Aug. 31	Sept. 30	Oct. 31	Nov. 30		
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Asparagus	12,406	13,358	22,381	20,676	18,357	15,942	14,109	
Beans, lima	86,163	104,568	56,437	103,437	119,466	107,927	97,340	
Beans, snap	59,851	77,392	95,234	104,297	95,688	90,553	80,884	
Broccoli	33,120	31,230	20,135	22,465	28,737	30,875	31,411	
Brussels sprouts	21,468	28,879	12,816	13,613	16,395	19,890	22,746	
Cauliflower	15,243	12,641	5,364	5,774	10,521	14,647	16,982	
Corn, sweet	57,148	88,583	67,280	86,986	85,933	75,480	65,951	
Peas, green	131,027	120,732	196,830	188,053	169,783	144,440	123,645	
Pumpkin and squash	11,241	10,413	4,220	4,576	10,759	16,564	13,539	
Spinach	33,688	23,946	38,347	33,752	34,614	33,194	32,199	
Other vegetables	101,116	124,683	86,110	88,945	102,568	113,648	122,915	
Total	562,471	636,425	605,154	672,574	692,821	663,160	621,721	

1/ Preliminary.



Table 10.- Canned vegetables: United States commercial packs 1954 and 1955 and canners' and wholesale distributors' stocks, indicated periods in 1955, with comparisons

Commodity	Packs		Stocks					
	1954	1955	Date	Canner 1/		Date	Wholesale distributor 1/	
				1954	1955		1954	1955
	: 1,000	: 1,000		: 1,000	: 1,000		: 1,000	: 1,000
	: cases	: cases		: cases	: cases		: cases	: cases
	: 24/2's	: 24/2's		: 24/2's	: 24/2's		: 24/2's	: 24/2's
Major commodities :								
Beans, snap :	27,069	23,371	July 1	2,216	5,810	July 1	2,415	3,015
Corn, sweet :	30,619	24,075	Dec. 1	24,534	18,925	Nov. 1	3,793	4,415
Peas, green :	23,951	27,376	Oct. 1	17,491	19,136	Nov. 1	3,654	3,567
Tomatoes :	21,827	24,727	July 1	5,749	2,666	July 1	3,012	3,039
Tomato juice 2/ :	27,062	26,911	July 1	11,483	6,141	July 1	2,824	2,829
Total :	130,528	126,460	---	61,473	52,678	---	15,698	16,865
Minor commodities :								
Asparagus :	4,978	6,248	Mar. 1	621	1,165	July 1	812	765
Beans, lima :	3,520	2,806	Aug. 1	410	865	July 1	533	564
Beets :	7,061	N.A.	July 1	2,059	1,369	July 1	1,046	1,059
Carrots :	2,096	N.A.	July 1	1,028	870	July 1	429	409
Pickles :	3/836	N.A.		---	---		---	---
Pimientos :	642	N.A.		---	---		---	---
Pumpkin and squash :	2,134	4,231	July 1	1,559	219	July 1	540	375
Sauerkraut :	3/10,994	N.A.	Aug. 1	4/3,812	4/3,157	Nov. 1	833	1,011
Potatoes :	1,656	N.A.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Sweetpotatoes :	4,061	N.A.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Spinach :	---	---	Mar. 1	5/689	5/308	July 1	780	814
Other greens :	---	---		---	---		---	---
Tomato products :								
Catsup, chili sauce :	14,494	18,382	July 1	4,572	1,977	July 1	1,065	1,205
Paste :	5,720	N.A.	July 1	5/1,356	5/481	July 1	---	---
Pulp and puree :	3,159	N.A.	July 1	5/580	5/81	July 1	737	796
Sauce :	8,204	N.A.	July 1	5/1,398	5/428	July 1	554	698
Vegetables, mixed :	3,040	N.A.		---	---		---	---
Total, comparable :								
minor items :	72,595	31,667		18,084	10,920		7,329	7,696
Grand total, com- :								
parable items :	203,123	158,127		79,557	63,598		23,027	24,561

1/ Wholesale distributors' stocks and canners' stocks converted from actual cases to standard cases of 24 No. 2 cans by the Statistical and Historical Branch of AMS.  
 2/ Includes combination vegetable juices containing at least 70 percent tomato juice.  
 3/ Crop for processing converted to a canned basis by applying an overall conversion factor (pickles 68 and sauerkraut 54 cases equivalent to 1 ton fresh). 4/ Reported in barrels; converted to 24/2's by using 14 cases to the barrel. 5/ California only.  
 N. A. Not available.  
 Canners' stock and pack data from National Canners Association, unless otherwise noted. Wholesale distributors' stocks from United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 11.- Potatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1944-53, annual 1954 and 1955

Group of States	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Average	1954	1955	Average	1954	1955	Average	1954	1955
	1944-53			1944-53			1944-53		
	1,000	1,000	1,000				1,000	1,000	1,000
	acres	acres	acres	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	bu.	bu.	bu.
Early									
13 States	371.4	239.4	245.5	173.6	216.9	247.5	61,719	51,931	60,767
Intermediate									
7 States	169.6	99.7	99.6	154.4	161.7	201.0	25,446	16,126	20,015
Late									
9 Eastern	473.3	350.0	348.5	274.7	299.4	334.1	125,086	104,796	116,448
9 Central	529.2	344.5	320.1	153.4	204.5	177.9	75,670	70,443	56,949
11 Western	423.3	374.5	393.2	272.1	301.0	324.1	113,226	112,735	127,452
Total of late States	1,425.8	1,069.0	1,061.8	230.0	269.4	283.3	313,982	287,974	300,849
Total of 36 late and intermediate States	1,595.4	1,168.7	1,161.4	222.3	260.2	276.3	339,427	304,100	320,864
Total U. S.	1,966.8	1,408.1	1,406.9	213.1	252.8	271.3	401,146	356,031	381,631

Table 12.- Sweetpotatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1944-53, annual 1954 and 1955

Group and State	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Average	1954	1955	Average	1954	1955	Average	1954	1955
	1944-53			1944-53			1944-53		
	1,000	1,000	1,000				1,000	1,000	1,000
	acres	acres	acres	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	bu.	bu.	bu.
Central									
Atlantic 1/	43.8	42.9	43.9	142.8	159.0	152.0	6,095	6,800	6,671
Lower									
Atlantic 2/	159.3	98.0	96.0	87.0	73.0	95.0	14,682	7,199	9,147
South									
Central 3/	273.0	186.1	199.9	83.0	77.0	103.0	23,982	14,256	20,511
North									
Central 4/	9.9	4.5	4.6	99.6	84.0	98.0	977	376	452
California	11.0	12.0	13.0	111.0	125.0	125.0	1,214	1,500	1,625
Total, United States	496.5	345.5	357.4	94.3	87.7	107.5	46,951	30,131	38,406

1/ New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, and Virginia. 2/ North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. 3/ Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. 4/ Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and Kansas.

Table 13.- Potatoes: F.O.B. prices, New York and Chicago wholesale market prices, indicated periods 1955-56, with comparisons

Location and variety	1954-55			1955-56			
	Week ended			Week ended			
	Nov. 13	Dec. 11	Jan. 15	Oct. 15	Nov. 12	Dec. 10	Jan. 14
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
<b>F.O.B. SHIPPING POINTS</b>							
New Crop							
Lake Okeechobee Section, Florida, Triumph (50 pound sack) 1/	---	---	1.75	---	---	---	2.00
Old Crop							
San Luis Valley, Colorado, Red McClure 1/ 3/	2/1.98	1.75	1.96	2.27	2.31	2.17	2.46
Idaho Falls, Russet Burbank 1/ 2/ 4/	2.68	2.70	3.26	1.96	2.34	2.22	2.86
Connecticut River Valley Points, Connecticut, U.S. No. 1 5/	2.05	2.05	2.15	1.12	1.22	1.35	1.60
Aroostock County, Maine, Katahdin 2/ 6/	2.10	1.81	2.04	---	7/1.40	7/1.32	7/1.84
Riverhead, Long Island, and nearby points 5/	2.20	2.36	2.63	.98	1.62	7/1.38	7/1.88
Rochester, West and Central New York 5/ 6/	2.50	2.22	2.22	8/1.16	8/2.07	8/2.07	8/2.33
Lancaster-Allentown Section Pennsylvania, Katahdin, U.S. No. 1	6/2.49	2.36	2.37	6/ 7/ 1.16	7/1.54	7/1.44	7/1.82
West Michigan points, 2/ 6/ 7/ Katahdin	2.24	2.04	2.14	1.60	1.72	1.90	1.92
	Tuesday nearest mid-month						
	Nov. 16	Dec. 14	Jan. 18	Oct. 18	Nov. 15	Dec. 13	Jan. 17
	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>TERMINAL MARKETS</b>							
<b>NEW YORK</b>							
Katahdin, Long Island	2.73	2.73	3.10	7/1.58	7/2.04	7/1.78	7/2.36
Katahdin, Maine 3/	---	2.77	3.10	---	---	7/2.24	7/2.88
Russet Burbank, Idaho 1/	4.65	4.70	5.25	4.30	4.40	7/4.42	7/5.08
<b>CHICAGO</b>							
Round Red, Midwestern 1/	2.40	2.40	2.80	9/2.85	9/2.85	9/2.90	9/3.25
Russet Burbank, Idaho 1/	3.95	4.25	4.60	3.40	3.75	3.65	4.30

1/ Washed. 2/ 2-inch minimum. 3/ 2-3 inch minimum. 4/ 20-30 percent, 10 oz. and larger. 5/ Various varieties. 6/ Delivered sales shipping point basis. 7/ 50-pound price doubled. 8/ Computed from price of 15 pound sack. 9/ Only Red River Valley Pontiac.

F.O.B. prices are simple averages of the mid-point of the range of daily prices and are compiled from Market News Reports of AMS. Market prices are submitted Tuesday of each week by Market News representatives.



Location and variety	Week ended						
	1954-55			1955-56			
	Nov. 13	Dec. 11	Jan. 15	Oct. 15	Nov. 12	Dec. 17	Jan. 14
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
F.o.b. Shipping Points :							
S. W. Louisiana points:							
Porto Rican 1/	3.46	4.32	4.34	1.99	2.21	2.82	2.68
			Tuesday nearest midmonth				
	Nov. 16	Dec. 14	Jan. 11	Oct. 18	Nov. 15	Dec. 13	Jan. 10
Terminal Markets :							
NEW YORK :							
Jersey type,							
New Jersey	2.00	---	3.25	---	3.12	---	2.75
Porto Rican,							
North Carolina	3.89	4.66	4.88	3.26	3.75	3.85	3.92
CHICAGO :							
Porto Rican,							
Louisiana 1/	4.15	4.85	4.90	2.70	3.15	3.75	3.35
1/ 50-pound crate.							

Table 15.- United States average prices received by farmers for important field crops, December 15, 1955, with comparisons

Commodity and unit	Average		1954	1955		
	Aug. 1909-Jan. 1947- July 1914-Dec. 1949		Dec. 15	Oct. 15	Nov. 15	Dec. 15
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Potatoes, per bushel	.681	1.48	1.05	.723	.829	.817
Sweetpotatoes, per bushel	.880	2.35	2.54	1.44	1.68	2.03
Beans, dry, edible, per cwt.	3.37	9.92	8.34	7.04	6.96	6.80
Peas, dry, field, per cwt.	---	4.60	6.87	6.41	5.96	6.03

Table 16.- Beans, dry, edible: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1944-55 annual 1954 and 1955

States and class	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production 1/		
	Average:			Average:			Average:		
	1944-53:	1954	1955	1944-53:	1954	1955	1944-53:	1954	1955
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	acres	acres	acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	bags	bags	bags
Maine, New York, and Michigan 2/	599	565	633	941	918	977	5,574	5,186	6,186
Nebraska, Montana: Idaho, Wyoming, and Washington 3/	306	352	319	1,605	1,764	1,803	4,896	6,209	5,751
Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah 4/	403	306	292	628	784	772	2,405	2,399	2,255
California:									
Large lima	77	73	72	1,581	1,895	1,662	1,205	1,383	1,197
Baby lima	66	43	24	1,588	1,958	1,471	1,018	842	353
Other 5/	178	218	227	1,236	1,329	1,333	2,219	2,897	3,026
TOTAL UNITED STATES	1,628	1,557	1,567	1,078	1,215	1,198	17,317	18,916	18,768

1/ Bags of 100 pounds, uncleaned beans; includes beans for seed. 2/ Largely Pea beans, but most important source also of Red Kidney, Yelloweye, and Cranberry.  
 3/ Largely Great Northern, but Idaho also is the most important source of Small Reds.  
 4/ Largely Pinto beans. 5/ Mostly Blackeye, Small White, and Pink.

Table 17.- Beans, dry, edible: Production in selected areas, by major types, United States, crop years 1954 and 1955

Type	Michigan		Idaho and others 1/		Colorado and others 2/		New York		California:		Total	
	1954:	1955:	1954:	1955:	1954:	1955:	1954:	1955:	1954:	1955:	1954:	1955:
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	bags 3/	bags 3/	bags 3/	bags 3/	bags 3/	bags 3/	bags 3/	bags 3/	bags 3/	bags 3/	bags 3/	bags 3/
Pea (Navy) Great Northern	3,000	4,494	27	40	---	---	158	88	---	---	3,185	4,622
Pinto	51	43	2,188	1,692	2,263	2,108	---	---	53	10	4,555	3,853
Red Kidney Standard lima	100	57	---	---	2	1	953	897	135	166	1,190	1,121
Baby lima	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,259	1,077	1,259	1,077
Other varieties	144	74	1,337	1,511	29	54	176	90	2,405	2,538	4,091	4,267
Total	3,295	4,668	5,577	5,272	2,294	2,163	1,287	1,075	4,610	4,109	17,063	17,287

1/ Includes Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska, and Washington. 2/ Includes New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah. 3/ Bags of 100 pounds, cleaned basis.

Table 18.- Peas, dry, field: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1953-54, annual 1954 and 1955 1/

State	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production <u>2/</u>		
	Average:	1954	1955	Average:	1954	1955	Average:	1954	1955
	1944-53:			1944-53:			1944-53:		
	1,000	1,000	1,000				1,000	1,000	1,000
	acres	acres	acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	bags	bags	bags
Minnesota	4	4	4	962	1,200	1,200	40	48	48
North Dakota	8	4	2	1,069	1,100	1,000	95	44	20
Montana	14	4	6	1,217	1,400	1,200	170	56	72
Idaho	113	93	96	1,290	1,275	1,100	1,450	1,186	1,056
Wyoming	4	5	5	1,316	1,970	1,680	51	98	84
Colorado	14	6	8	943	810	900	131	49	72
Washington	195	140	161	1,246	1,330	830	2,434	1,862	1,336
Oregon	22	5	4	1,075	1,000	575	235	50	23
California	14	8	6	1,137	1,225	1,365	150	98	82
Total	389	269	292	1,228	1,298	957	4,764	3,491	2,793

1/ In commercial producing States. Includes peas grown for seed and cannery peas harvested dry.

2/ Bags of 100 pounds uncleaned peas.

3/ Short-time average.





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